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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

What do you think is a reasonable rate for Internet access in the CNMI?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

BUSINESS

The leaders of the world's largest economies have agreed to step up their efforts to boost growth and job creation.

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WORLD

Islamist candidate Mohammed Morsi claimed a hollow victory Monday in Egypt's presidential vote just hours after the country's military rulers stripped the office of its most important powers.

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FOCUS

Marlon Roberto Cortes was stocking shelves in the frozen food section of a suburban Boston supermarket when he was summoned to the back office.

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Air Force: Saipan is first 'preferred' divert airfield

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan is the "preferred Alternative 1" for a divert or contingency airfield for the U.S. Air Force in support of expanding its mission requirements in the western Pacific in the event that access to Guam's Andersen Air Force Base is limited or denied, but Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and other officials are still hoping that Tinian will earn the spot when a final decision is made.

- Fitial, others still push for Tinian
- Community outreach sessions set

The 110-page "Draft Environmental Impact Assessment for Proposed Divert Activities and Exercises, Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands" listed Tinian as "preferred Alternative 2."

The Air Force considered four locations: Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

But an evaluation of the four

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Governor submits to Senate requirements for 5 nominees

»Nominations will serve BPL, CDA, CPA

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial submitted to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) the required documents to support his nominations of five individuals to serve on the Board of Professional Licensing, the Commonwealth Development Authority board and the Commonwealth Ports Authority board, hoping that the Senate will start the confirmation process.

Fitial's letters were dated June 18 but they were received at the Senate yesterday.

These governor's appointments need the advice and consent of the Senate.

Fitial submitted copies of resumes, statements of financial interest, police clearance, drug test receipts, and/or drug test results of three nominees to BPL, including Roman S. Demapan, Herman B. Cabrera, and Roy P.

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

APIL PREPARATIONS
Members of the Department of Public Safety's color detail led by Police Officer John D. Cabrera, left, practice the posting of colors in the chamber of the House of Representatives on Capital Hill yesterday, for this morning's opening ceremony of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' 31st General Assembly. The four-day APIL meeting brings together some 200 lawmakers and other stakeholders from around the region to find solutions to common concerns such as in the area of tourism and airlines and natural resources.

Mobil cuts gas prices by another 10 cents a gallon

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan motorists got another reprieve at the pump when Mobil Oil Mariana Islands reduced its pump prices by another 10 cents a gallon at 4pm yesterday, two weeks since a 20-cent a gallon price cut.

The latest price change brings to 50 cents the total gas price reductions since May 8.

However, the CNMI, especially Rota, still has the dubious distinction of having the highest gas prices on American soil.

CNMI prices range from $4.659 to $6.70 a gallon, but average price in the U.S. is $3.528 a gallon on Monday.

Regular unleaded gasoline at Mobil service stations on Saipan is now $4.659 a gallon, down from $4.759 a gallon.

Mobil's super unleaded gasoline is now $4.979 a gallon.

Diesel at Mobil stations is

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Retirees amenable to taxing their pensions, benefits. PAGE 3
Fitial submits to Senate requirements for 5 nominees. PAGE 4

Local

IN DISCRIMINATION SUITS FILED VS DEFUNCT GARMENT FACTORY

Two workers told their day in court passed long ago

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The federal court yesterday dismissed separate discrimination lawsuits filed by two women in 2006 against garment factory La Mode Inc. that filed a bankruptcy case.

Citing the commencement of the lawsuits violated the automatic bankruptcy stay, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed the lawsuits filed by Anecia Perez and Erlinda Paguta.

In separate decisions issued yesterday, Manglona said without competent counsel to advise them, Perez and Paguta waited for the court to tell them when they would have their day, when in fact their day had passed long ago.

"Because more than 90 days have passed since the EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) issued the right-to-sue letter, any new attempted filing in this matter would be untimely," said Manglona in dismissing the cases with prejudice.

Dismissal with prejudice means the case cannot be reopened.

Perez and Paguta, both Filipinos, asked the court to order La Mode Inc. to pay them backpay, compensation, including medical expenses not paid by the employer, and liquidated damages.

The plaintiffs alleged that since at least October 2004, the defendant has engaged in unlawful practices at its Saipan facility.

These alleged practices include subjecting them to discrimination on the basis of their age, and national origin by depriving them of employment benefits given to employees, the complaints said.

According to court records, Perez and Paguta first filed their discrimination complaints with the EEOC in November 2004.

In October 2005, EEOC issued a determination of reasonable cause to believe that La Mode had discriminated against Perez and Paguta on the basis of age and national origin.

Conciliation efforts failed. EEOC elected not to bring suit against La Mode. In April 2006, EEOC issued a notice of right to sue, whereupon Perez and Paguta had 90 days within which to file suit against the factory.

The two timely filed the suits in court on June 27, 2006.

La Mode closed its Saipan operations and in July 2005 filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection in California.

In August 2006, the U.S. Trustee filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI a notice of automatic stay and served it on Perez and Paguta.

The automatic stay prevents creditors from taking certain actions against the debtor.

After receiving the notice, Perez and Paguta ceased to prosecute their claims. La Mode never answered their complaints.

The court did not issue a stay order.

In April 2010, the bankruptcy case closed. On April 7, 2011, the federal court issued an order to show cause why the stay should not be lifted.

A month later, the court lifted the stay. The case again languished without prosecution for almost a year.

At the April 9, 2012 status conference, the court directed La Mode to respond to the complaint.

La Mode then filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuits. The company asserted that because the complaint and service of process were in violation of the automatic stay in the bankruptcy case, they were void from the beginning.

Perez and Paguta explained that they were not aware of the bankruptcy until the stay notice issued in August 2006 and therefore they should not be faulted for any violation of the stay.

In granting La Mode's motion to dismiss, Manglona said because Perez and Paguta commenced their lawsuits against La Mode while the bankruptcy case was pending, the filing violated the stay and was void.

Manglona said the plaintiffs' argument that the lawsuits are a continuation of the EEOC case is without merit.

"The EEOC case was an administrative process, while the lawsuit in district court is judicial," Manglona said.

The judge said it is regrettable that Perez and Paguta did not seek or obtain sound legal advice on how best to proceed once they had notice of the bankruptcy stay.

KKMP helping LibDay committee to raise funds

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Radio station KKMP is assisting the 2012 Liberation Day committee to raise funds for the weeklong festivities by offering promotional packages to various government agencies that have federally funded programs.

KKMP's Gary Sword informed the committee members during yesterday's meeting that he already distributed the promotional package kits to these agencies which include the Division of Public Health and the Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Some 20 committee members and volunteers attended the meeting held at the Mayor's Office conference room. The meeting was still ongoing when *Saipan Tribune* left at about 3pm.

Sword said the promotional package involves promoting the respective agencies and their programs by having their names in the Liberation banner to be posted in conspicuous places, a full-page advertisement in the 50-page commemorative booklet, radio announcements, and recognition during the actual Liberation Day program.

He said the promotional package was created to entice these agencies to promote their products and raise public awareness while supporting the biggest community event in the CNMI.

"We went from cancellation to celebration," said Sword, referring to the positive feedbacks he received from the various agencies.

But Sword noted that the agencies, particularly those with programs dealing with health issues, agreed to avail of the promotional packages only if the festivities remain alcohol and smoke-free.

The committee agreed to accommodate the request and will just designate a smoking area within the festival grounds.

This year's Liberation Day celebration will be held from June 28 to July 4 at the Garapan Fishing Base. Sword said the culmination of the event, which is the Fourth of July program, will be broadcast live via KKMP.

According to Sword, they are also working on getting funding for the wooden stage big enough to accommodate dignitaries and performers during the Liberation Day Parade.

Sword added that he expects to finalize which agencies and companies will avail of the promotional package within the week.

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TO SAVE PENSION PROGRAM

Retirees amenable to taxing their pensions, benefits

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

In their desire to prolong the life and eventually save the NMI Retirement Fund, a number of retirees are willing to make sacrifices—even allowing their pensions and benefits to be taxed if that's the only way they can protect their contributions to the program.

This according to Commonwealth Retirees Association chair Larry Cabrera, who disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that this position was already taken by the group's membership in a previous meeting.

The pension obligation bond, which failed in the past election, was proposed to give the administration a means to pay its obligation to the Fund. This obligation amounts to $320 million to date and still growing, representing unpaid employer contributions for many years.

Cabrera believes that the government has no other way to pay its debt to the Fund other than floating a bond. To backup this plan, he said a dedicated tax from pensions and benefits of retirees can make the idea attractive. A special account under the Fund was also recommended to be established solely for these taxes.

The chairman revealed to *Saipan Tribune* that even if current retirees' benefits are taxed by 10 percent, retirees' take home pay will probably still be bigger—by almost 200 percent—than what they could get from Social Security Administration.

Cabrera, along with other members, are not convinced with the administration's plan to transfer active Fund members to SSA, in order to get rid off the defined benefit plan. At present, there are an estimated 3,000 retirees and 3,000 active members in the pension program which is predicted to last less than two years.

"This problem is almost 30 years old and it seems nobody wants to fix it. Although the retirement program is a noble idea for the citizens, we have a government that is not really interested in keeping it to allow its citizens to continue to live the remaining years of their lives comfortably," said Cabrera, adding that this is why the government wants to "hitch-hike" to the federal SSA program.

The CRA members, in its meeting last week, rejected the governor's executive order that placed the Fund in a state of emergency and allows the transfer of its functions to the Department of Finance. They pleaded for the Legislature to junk the executive order to help the program survive.

Hiring own lawyer

Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune* that the CRA board of directors is looking at hiring its own lawyer who will truthfully represent the retirees' concerns.

"The board will discuss this idea in our next meeting and hopefully we will make a decision. We're considering all options available to us and brought to our table," he said.

Cabrera said he endorsed the hiring of a CRA lawyer in relation to the group's plan to challenge the governor's executive order in court. However, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) asked that they postpone this decision pending action from the Legislature's.

The chairman admitted that he had initially spoken to some lawyer friends but failed to secure a commitment from anyone due to conflict of interest, busy schedules, and ultimately, working without due compensation.

"But we will still get somebody who is not hungry and believe on the things that we want to do," he added.

Fund asks Bankruptcy Court to allow continued payment to beneficiaries

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund yesterday asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division to allow for the continued payment of certain benefits to beneficiaries at the 100 percent level pending the court's entry of the dismissal of the Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition.

The Fund, through counsel Jeremy B. Coffey, informed the court that prior to filing this proposal, the Debtor (Fund) consulted with counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors and the U.S. Trustee.

Coffee said the Official Committee does not object to such Fund's request, while the Trustee did not express any objection but reserved all rights to interpose an objection upon the Fund's submission of the proposal.

The Fund requested the court to schedule an expedited hearing on its proposal for continued payment.

Citing the background of the payment issue, Coffey said prior to the filing date of the Chapter 11 petition (April 17, 2012), the Fund established a subsidiary, Pension Holdings Corp., for the purpose of ensuring the continued payments of benefits, in full, for up to the first two months of this case.

At the same time, the lawyer said, the Fund began taking steps to seek court authority to gradually reduce the level at which benefits would be paid consistent with the Fund's plan for the Chapter 11 case.

Coffey said with the June 2012 payment, Pension Holdings Corp. has now exhausted its funding and is no longer able to satisfy the Fund's semi-monthly payment obligations.

The next such payment schedule is on or before July 1, 2012.

Coffey said in a memorandum decision delivered on June 13, 2012, Judge Robert J. Faris indicated his intent to enter an order of dismissal of the Chapter 11 case after consideration and payment of fee and administrative expense requests, which consideration could occur as late as July 27, 2012.

Coffey explained that if the Fund is unable to resume benefit payments until after the order of dismissal is entered, it would cause undue hardship on Fund members who rely on such benefit payments to meet basic food, shelter, clothing, and medical needs.

"Through this proposal, the Debtor seeks limited authority to resume benefit payments, beginning with the July 1, 2012 payment, until such time as the order dismissing this case is entered," the lawyer said.

Govendo frees Customs officer in alleged gun pointing, baseball bat attack

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo yesterday ordered the temporary release of a Customs officer accused of pointing a gun at a man and attacking him with a baseball bat in Garapan.

Govendo issued the release order after defendant Abraham Falig signed an appearance bond and posted a $10,000 property bond.

The judge directed Falig to have no direct or indirect contact with the victim, Jack Sachuo.

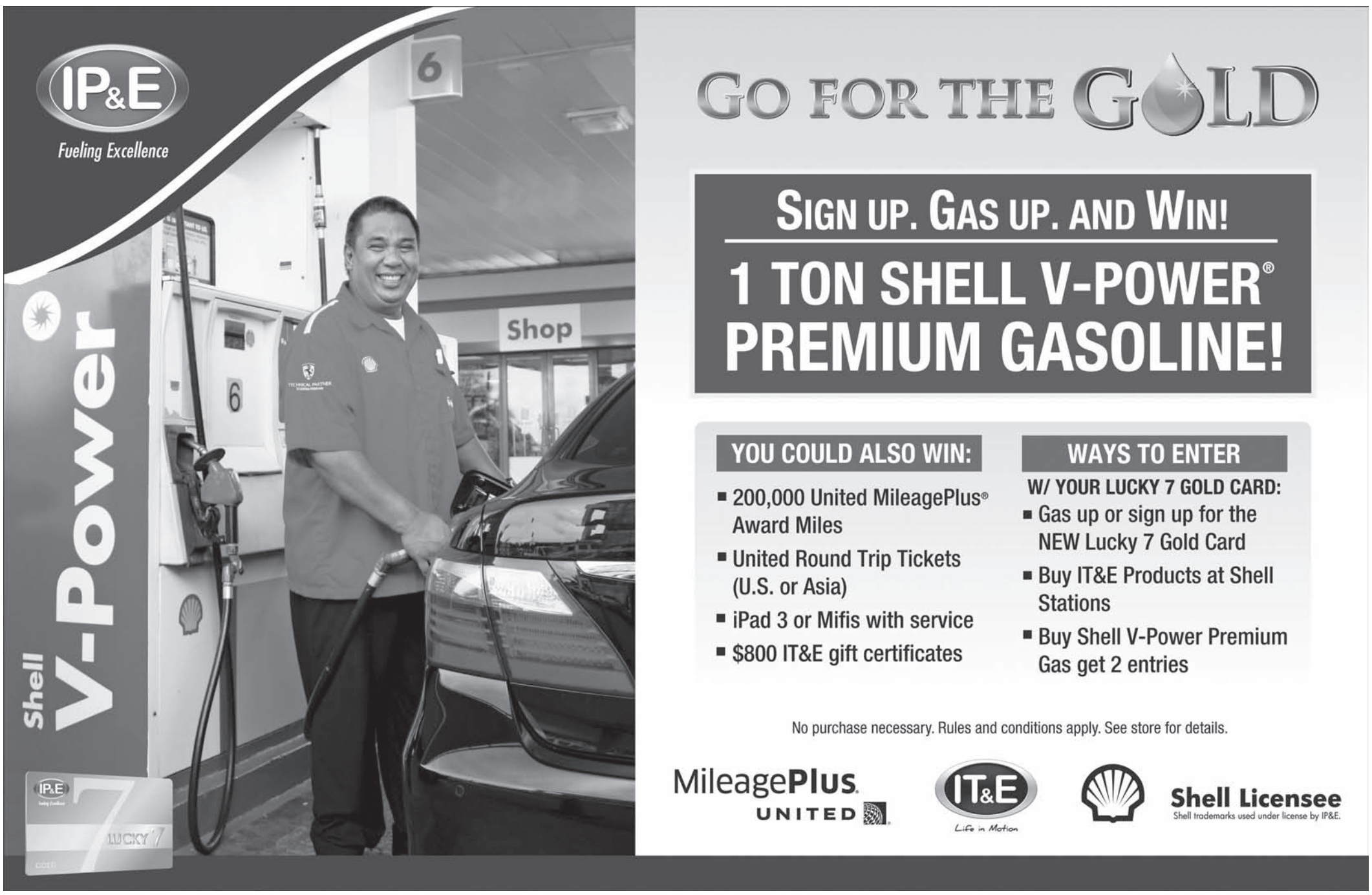
Sachuo was taken to the hospital after he sustained bruises and scratches on his left elbow and shoulder.

Sachuo told police that, on June 12, 2012 he was sitting in front of New Chang Ming Market with friends when Falig and a female passenger arrived aboard a car.

Falig got down from the car and allegedly hit Sachuo with the baseball bat but it flew away.

The Customs officer then allegedly pulled a handgun and pointed it at Sachuo. Sachuo dared Falig to shoot him. The officer then picked up the baseball bat and hit him on the left elbow and left shoulder.

The victim managed to run away. The following day, police arrested Falig. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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ALAI said it will open pre-school this fall

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Advanced Language and Academic Institute or ALAI is planning to open a new pre-school this fall.

Nina Rivera, ALAI founder and program coordinator, said that the pre-school slated to open in August will employ a combined creative and German curriculum based on a pre-school franchise from Korea for their future young learners.

"We're bringing that here and aligning it with the core curriculum of the Public School System's standards and benchmarks," said Rivera, guest speaker at yesterday's meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan.

ALAI, Rivera said, is a tutorial center made up of qualified instructors and professional staff who provide language and academic tutorials in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

The institution also provides tutorials in SATs, TOEFL, ACTs, and ESL for business, conversation, and survival functions.

Rivera disclosed that the pre-school is only among the several new developments they have at ALAI which is located above Payless Shoe Source in San Jose.

The tutorial center will soon offer Russian language lessons in addition to Japanese, Chinese, and Korean languages.

Rivera said they also expanded ALAI's Kids Club with their new, 1,200-square foot indoor jungle gym play structure which has features that include zipline and trampoline and can be booked for children's parties.

"You can drop off your kids there and they will have fun," said Rivera of the Kid's Club, which also offers lessons on music and dance, crafts, storytelling, speech classes.

Rivera also revealed that ALAI is working on its non-profit license to allow the center to avail of grants and funding in relation to their vision, which is to expand to different parts of the island and offer services to families from different income brackets.

"We'd like to offer scholarships and co-pay programs for those who really want the help that we provide but just can't afford it," she said.

Rivera added that for the first time, ALAI is offering this year a summer camp catering to local children. About 25 to 30 students have signed up for the summer camp, which was previously geared to Korean students only.

For more information, visit ALAI or call 234-7944.

MP claims Solomons prime minister Lilo censoring news media

HONIARA, Solomon Islands (Solomon Star/PIR)—Former Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare has accused Prime Minister Gordon Darcy Lilo of attempting to censor the media.

The Member of Parliament (MP) for East Choiseul described Prime Minister Lilo's latest accusation of the media ofirresponsible reporting as an attempt to avoid media from actively engaging themselves on national issues.

Mr. Sogavare was responding to the Prime Minister's frequent media outbursts on the media describing latest reporting's about his government as 'irresponsible'.

Mr. Sogavare's accusation also followed an article published in the Sunday Star which he (Sogavare) called on the Prime Minister to step down over numerous outstanding issues raised against him (PM) in the media by the Opposition.

The former Prime Minister who is a member of the Opposition said he has noted with keen interest that the Prime Minister's commitment to remain engaged with any national issues whilst taking exception to alleged irresponsible journalism.

"To accuse them of irresponsible reporting would be interpreted as suppressive and an attempt to avoid active engagement on national issues, and therefore contradictory and hypocritical. I am not surprised because this is consistent with the way the leadership has been exercised since this government came into power."

"The Prime Minister must understand that in the absence of regular Parliament meeting, the so called engagement he is talking about is only possible by the inquisitive actions of journalists and media outlets in the country and Parliament must now be called to test the Prime Minister's commitment to remain engaged with any national issues."

Mr. Sogavare said it would be true to say that the public's mind has now been saturated with claims and counter claims of abuse and outright corruption both by the leadership of the government and key public officers close to the government.

He said the Prime Minister's assertion that he was mandated by the majority of Parliament to be Prime Minister was a total joke if any one understands Solomon Islands politics.

"The truth of the matter is political leadership in Solomon Islands is systematically falling into the hands of powerful foreign commercial interests and until we realistically address electoral reforms we will continue to get vassal leaders heading the government," the East Choiseul MP said.

AIR FORCE

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possible site alternatives identified Saipan and Tinian as meeting or have the ability to meet most of the five selection standards.

Rota and Guam were dropped because they do not meet the selection standard for "storm radius."

Saipan has access to fuel vessels unlike Tinian. Both Saipan and Tinian have limited capability to meet the selection standard of "adequate land and existing infrastructure with expansion potential to satisfy proposed action requirements."

The full text of the draft EIS is available at http://www.pacafdivertmarianaseis.com/docs/public-review-period/Divert%20Public%20Draft%20EIS_Master_FrontSection2.pdf.

Tom Linden, coordinator for the CNMI Military Integration Management Committee, said yesterday that a final decision has not been made, and there might still be a possibility of having Tinian as preferred site over Saipan after evaluation of public comments to the draft EIS.

Linden said while the CNMI government welcomes the initiative to designate any of the islands of the CNMI as divert location, "Tinian would be our preferred choice."

"Governor Fitial still prefers Tinian," Linden told *Saipan Tribune.*

The comment period for the draft EIS is from June 8 to July 23, 2012.

Fitial, in his official submission last year, cited six distinct advantages that Tinian offers, including the airport's 1.5-mile distance from the closest residential development so noise issues shouldn't be a concern. He said the Tinian port has a deep water harbor, is close to the airport, and is underutilized.

"The development of Tinian will enhance other military buildup-related activities. Existing runways can easily be expanded," he said. The governor also said all lands in question are already public lands so it will not require purchase of any private lands. He added that over 95 percent of the people living on Tinian welcome this initiative and will be extremely supportive.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) also asked the Air Force to consider Tinian, while Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) offered Rota.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) and Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) separately said yesterday that they welcome having one of the CNMI's airports designated as divert airfield but they said they "leave it up to the experts," referring to the Air Force to decide which one between Saipan and Tinian.

"A gain for one island is gain for the CNMI," Cruz said. Two-thirds of Tinian lands are leased by the U.S. Department of Defense.

Conner, for his part, said while the final decision rests with the Air Force, he said he is still hoping that Tinian will be considered.

"If not, there will still be other branches of the military that can use Tinian. As you know, the Marines recently trained on Tinian and we hope to host more training exercises to help enhance the island's economy," Conner said.

The draft EIS for the U.S. Air Force Divert Activities and Exercises was entered into the Federal Register on June 8.

The proposed divert location will use up to 12 KC-135 wide-bodied airplanes and 500 to 700 support personnel.

The Air Force said the purpose of the proposed action is to ensure a divert field-an alternative location to Andersen Air Force Base-exists "that can support emergency divert requirements, military training and exercises, and humanitarian relief operations within a reasonable distance to AAFB and the Philippine Sea."

The proposal would result in critical enhancements to an existing civilian airfield.

U.S. Air Force representatives will hold a briefing of this report to MIMC members and other agencies on June 25.

There will also be community outreach sessions, including one on June 23, Saturday, at 4pm at Saipan Southern High School and June 24, Sunday, also at 4pm, at Dandan Elementary School.

Linden said outreach sessions in Koblerville and Dandan have been scheduled as those two communities will have the most direct impact from noise if Saipan is indeed the chosen location.

The other outreach sessions include: Saipan, Monday, June 25, from 5pm to 8pm at the Multi-Purpose Center; Tinian, Tuesday, June 26, from 5pm to 8pm at Tinian Elementary School; and Rota, Wednesday, June 27, from 4pm to 5:30pm at the Mayor's Office.

GOVERNOR

From Page 1

Reyes. The governor nominated them to BPL on April 30, May 1, and May 14, respectively.

BPL only has one member at the moment and needs at least three of five members to have a quorum. Without a quorum, BPL cannot renew or approve applicants' licenses for architects, engineers, land surveyors, and real estate appraisers, among other things.

Fitial also submitted documents for Concepcion O. Igisomar whom he nominated to the CPA board on May 3, as well as Edward C. Sablan whom he reappointed on April 16.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, said that because the documents were received only yesterday, he will give the panel members "ample time" to review the submissions as part of their initial investigations on the nominees' background and qualification.

The EAGI Committee is the body that investigates and recommends to the full Senate whether to confirm or reject the governor's nominees.

"The EAGI Committee is aware of the urgency to confirm the nominees, especially to BPL because right now it does not have a quorum. But we also need to do our due diligence in reviewing the nominees' credentials," Cruz told *Saipan Tribune.*

Meanwhile, CDA board chair Pedro Itibus and executive director Manuel A. Sablan wrote to the Senate EAGI chair, expressing support to the reappointment of Edward C. Sablan to the CDA board.

"Mr. Sablan has played a very important role in CDA's successes for the last three years and his experience in finance and taxation is valuable asset to this organization. He has strong determination to follow the mandate of the law that created CDA. He abides by the right principles and observes CDA rules and regulations at the same time compassionate to the needs of the people that CDA serves," the CDA officials told Cruz.

Cruz said the Senate EAGI Committee will likely meet next week to discuss the governor's submission of nominees' requirements.

MOBIL

From Page 1

now $5.019 a gallon.

Shell Marianas has yet to change its prices as of early last night. Mobil and Shell have historically mirrored each other's prices changes, so it may only be a matter of hours or days before Shell also cuts its pump prices.

Boy Ching, a Saipan businessman, said now that gas prices have been decreasing, the costs of other goods and services, including food items and utilities that are affected by gas prices should also start dropping.

"I have yet to see price cuts for other products. But I hope gas prices will drop some more," he told *Saipan Tribune*. Ching said he spends some $50 a week on vehicle gas alone, and he hopes to stretch that budget further with the series of gas price reductions.

Other motorists said every drop in gas price helps a lot in these times when work hours and salaries are being cut by as much as 30 hours biweekly.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), chair of the House Commerce and Tourism Committee, said yesterday that the series of price decreases is "welcome news" to everyone "and it would be nice if they continue to go down."

"There's an expectation that power rates would also go down as fuel prices continue to go down," he said.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), chair of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications, said Mobil's price cut is "welcome relief" to everyone affected by gas prices.

Mobil earlier said that prices of gasoline are determined by a number of factors, including changes in the world market wholesale prices of gasoline, regional gasoline supply and demand balance, transportation costs, insurance, local distribution, marketing costs, government regulations, taxes, competitive market forces, and investments in retail stations and distribution terminals.

Oil dropped below $83 a barrel Tuesday in Asia as traders closely watched talks between Iran and six world powers over the Middle Eastern country's nuclear program, Associated Press said.

Crude has plunged from $110 in February as fears eased that the U.S. or Israel would attack Iranian nuclear facilities and disrupt global oil supplies. Signs of slowing economic growth and oil demand in the U.S., Europe, and China have also pushed prices lower. ***(With reports from AP)***

MANTA RAY BAND OLYMPICS FUNDRAISER

3 bands perform in outdoor concert

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Hundreds of spectators were treated to a night of live musical entertainment Monday as talented musicians from three different bands out of Korea and Saipan took center stage at the American Memorial Park to kick off the Korean Culture Festival in Saipan.

The outdoor concert brought together the Hwasun Elementary Brass Band, Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Concert Band, and Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band, a demonstration of cultural and artistic exchange between Saipan and Korea.

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, in his welcoming remarks, said the concert proudly supports not only the young band members but also brings the two communities together, allowing them to foster a relationship based on unity and solidarity.

"Cultural and social tolerance must triumph so we can understand differences of any kind and bring enrichment to our relationship," said Flores, who also thanked the concert organizers for working hard to make the event possible.

The Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band served as the opening act for the concert which was also a fundraising event to help the Manta Ray Band reach its target amount of $250,000 which would allow them to fly to London in July to perform for the 2012 Summer Olympics.

Co-conductor Will DeWitt led the Saipan Pacific Winds Band Concert Band as they performed music by John Philip Sousa, the March King, Frankie Valli, and the Four Seasons' medley, *7th Night of July*, and *A Bug's Life*.

Manta Ray Concert Band then took the limelight as they offered their very eager audience a taste of their London performance, playing their showpieces such as Urban Dances, a medley of King of Jazz Duke Ellington's music, and Daiki Kato's *Mariana Variations*, which is inspired by the *CNMI National Anthem*.

Manta Ray's performance of Earth, Wind, & Fire hits as well as the theme of the Austin Powers movie also drew rounds of applause from the spectators.

SSHS principal Jesse Tudela expressed his appreciation for the community's support to raise funds for the award-winning concert band which has been invited to perform in front of an international audience.

Highlighting the concert was the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band comprised of some 60 fifth and sixth graders who hail from Jeollanam-do region. The Korean youngsters captivated the Saipan crowd not only with their knack for playing brass instruments but also for their flair in grooving to the beat.

Hwasun school principal Choi Yun Chang said this is the second time that their group has been invited to perform on Saipan, having performed for the 223rd American Independence Day.

"We are honored and grateful for our second invitation to Saipan. We will be looking forward to your visit to Korea," Choi said after presenting certificates of appreciation to Mayor Flores and SSHS principal Tudela.

The group also did community service through a beach cleanup in Managaha and a visit to the Aging Center yesterday. They are scheduled to visit the Department of Public Safety in Susupe today.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Hwasun Elementary School principal Choi Yun Chang presents the certificates of appreciation to Saipan Southern High School principal Jesse Tudela and Mayor Donald G. Flores, right.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Conductor Seo Kwang Yul of the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band addresses the audience before the start of their performance during the fundraising concert held at the American Memorial Park Monday night.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Six young members of the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band take center stage to perform for hundreds of spectators during Monday's concert to benefit the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Concert Band.

CPA cited for lack of oil spill containment at airport

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority was cited by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for lack of oil spill containment at the airport and faces fines if it fails to resolve the problem identified by the federal agency.

Saipan airport manager Ed Mendiola yesterday confirmed the release of the EPA citation but immediately claimed that the agency is in the process of addressing the deficiency.

EPA representatives conducted an inspection at the airport site last February where they uncovered the problem. Concerns were immediately raised to local ports officials regarding the importance of meeting the requirement.

Saipan Tribune learned that a formal letter that indicated the said violation was later released to CPA which was required to submit corrective action plans on a given period of time. It was learned that CPA will be assessed a fine if it fails to rectify the problem within a 60-day period.

According to Mendiola, CPA tapped the services of Allied Pacific Environmental Consulting Inc. for the project. However, the airport manager refused to disclose further details of the project but admitted that a corrective action plan has been already turned in to the federal agency.

In 2005 EPA issued a unilateral administrative order to CPA citing numerous violations on environment-related standards. Since then, the agency has hired APEC for several of these projects among them was the airport's incinerator project that saved the agency from paying fines and penalties to the federal agency in the past.

Yesterday, APEC project manager Robert Jordan confirmed to *Saipan Tribune* that the notice to proceed was issued to the company in February for the new concern and the contract was awarded in March. In early April, Jordan said APEC completed the corrective plan and submitted to both EPA and its local arm Division of Environmental Quality.

He said APEC had a discussion with EPA last week and they're currently awaiting additional comments regarding the final spill prevention, control, and countermeasure (SPPC plan) turned in to the federal agency.

For many years, Jordan said his company has been closely working with CPA and provide advices to the agency to bring it in full compliance with any EPA citations. The company, he said, also provides necessary trainings to personnel.

In the SPPC plan, Jordan pointed out the need for regular maintenance and inspection of storage areas. CPA, he added, has also a number of projects in its books that could also help address such concerns such as the building of a modern aircraft rescue fire fighting center to be funded by the Federal Aviation Administration.

The U.S. EPA has spill prevention, control, and countermeasure (SPCC) rules that aim at preventing and controlling oil spills that could pollute water bodies. These rules apply to facilities that have the capacity to store more than 42,000 gallons of oil in underground storage tanks, or more than 1,320 gallons above the ground. Considering that airports store oil and are near bodies of water, these provisions apply to airport facilities too.

EPA requires that a qualified operator have a response plan in place that will be implemented in the event of a spill. The regulations are part of the EPA's Emergency Manage-

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OFF TO JROTC NATIONALS

The Tinian JROTC Leadership Academic Bowl team is heading out to the George Mason University, Fairfax, VA on June 20, 2012. The team will compete at the National JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl from June 22 to 26, where they will face off with 39 other teams from all over the world in the National JLAB Championship. Photo from left shows Joe Sablan (MSU staff), Phillip Quitugua (MSU staff), CSM (R) Ric Basa (Tinian Senior Army instructor), Cadet/LTC Marquina Hofschneider (JLAB team captain), Cadet/Captain Veronica Borja, (JLAB team member), Cadet/ SSG Josue Cruz (JLAB team member), Cadet/CSM Samantha Wedding (JLAB team member), CSM (R) Leo Rabago (Acting DAI), and SFC (R) Cel Damian (MSU staff).

AS OAG MOVES TO DROP CHARGES

Camacho dismisses criminal case vs ex-CPA firefighter

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday dismissed without prejudice the charges against a former Commonwealth Ports Authority firefighter who, while on probation, allegedly turned violent, pushing his brother, and challenging him to a fight.

Camacho dismissed the case against Giovanni Camacho Sablan as the Office of the Attorney General no longer wants to prosecute the matter by moving to drop the charges.

Assistant attorney general Darren Robinson stated that after further review of the file, the government is not convinced that sufficient evidence exists at this time to prove the charges set forth in the case beyond a reasonable doubt.

Robinson asked the court to dismiss the case without prejudice

Dismissal without prejudice allows the prosecution to re-file a new case on the same claim in the future.

The OAG charged the 24-year-old Sablan with assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

According to OAG, on Dec. 16, 2011 at 8:35am, Sablan disturbed the peace and assaulted and battered his younger brother.

OAG said the defendant also disturbed the peace of his mother and younger siblings in his mother's house where all parties reside in San Antonio.

OAG said Sablan, a former mixed martial arts fighter, was already on probation for a violent domestic matter when the incident happened.

When the last case was filed, the prosecution opposed Sablan's request to release him on $500 cash and unsecured bond.

Then assistant attorney general Eileen Escudero Wisor stated in the government's opposition that Sablan is a considerable danger to the community as his ability as a former MMA fighter and the use of "ice" is a deadly combination making his behavior virtually unpredictable and therefore impossible to ensure the safety of those around him and the community.

The prosecutor said it is clear that Sablan has no regard of CNMI laws or the court orders as this violation occurred while he was on probation for a similar offense.

In October 2011, Superior Court associate judge Perry B. Inos slapped a 58-day jail term on Sablan for assaulting his former girlfriend in the parking lot of a hotel in Chalan Kanoa.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR
PROGRAM ASSISTANT

NMCADSV is looking for a motivated individual to join its team! We are looking for someone who is rooted in service and believes in the social justice values we uphold.

Minimum Qualifications
An agreement with NMCADSV's philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
High School Diploma or Equivalent
Experience providing clerical and administrative support
Demonstrated abilities in verbal and written communication
Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
Flexible Schedule
(May be occasionally required to work evenings and weekends)
Must be able to Travel

Extra consideration will be given for the following:
1 year documented experience/work with non-profit and/or charitable organizations or volunteerism
Own transportation with a valid driver's license, insurance and registration

For a full list of duties, please stop by the NMCADSV office or email at endviolencenmi@gmail.com.
No phone inquiries, please.

Salary Range: $10.00/hr ~ $14.00/hr (based on experience)

Application Deadline and Submission Information
Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 22, 2012.
If submitting certificates and awards, please provide a list only.
Late submissions will not be considered.

Applications can be submitted via email to endviolencenmi@gmail.com, delivered to NMCADSV's office **(between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. ONLY)** at the Spring's Plaza Building on Middle Road (north of XO Market), or mailed to NMCADSV, P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950. (Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline.) Applicants who are invited for an interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma or equivalent, Police Clearance, and a list of references.

This project is 100% supported by federal grants: Grant # 2010-AX-MU-0019 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice and Grant # G-1101MPSDVC awarded by the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

2012 DISCONNECTION DATES

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of these business days

January 20 • February 27 • March 20
April 20 • May 23 • June 20 • July 20
August 22 • September 20 • October 24
November 21 • December 20

will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on these days. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before these dates.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE

You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **these dates**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.

IT&E Life in Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau/Tinian/Rota Office– up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

Attention new KagHS students

All incoming freshmen from ChaCha Oceanview and Hopwood Jr. High must register at Kagman High School on or before Aug. 24 for optimal scheduling. All returning KHS students must re-register for school year 2012-2013. Registration forms may be picked up from the main office or the registrars office.

The reason for re-registration is that we must keep up to date records for every student enrolled at KHS. This also allows KHS to ensure your child receives their class schedule correctly and on time. Delays in registration, might result in delays in your child's schedule. To avoid delay, please register all returning and incoming freshmen on or before August 24th 2012.

Orientation for Kagman High School Students will be announced at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact the main office at 237 3840 or email kagmanhs@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

PSS decides not to renew Waldo's contract

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System will soon lose its finance director after it decided not to renew the Richard Waldo's contract.

Saipan Tribune learned that Waldo received the 90-day notice of his contract's non-renewal last month indicating that his function will cease after August this year.

Waldo in a short telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday admitted that his contract was only extended for three months by PSS or until August. But he declined to answer further inquiries.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, meanwhile, refused to comment on the issue when asked yesterday.

"At this point, since this matter concerns a personnel issue, I have no comments to make," said the commissioner.

BOE fiscal and personnel affairs committee chair Tanya King confirmed the non-renewal of Waldo's contract, but she refused to further discuss the matter citing PSS' personnel policy.

However, King disclosed that an interim appointment will soon be made by the commissioner and that the finance director position will be announced at a later time.

Waldo was hired as PSS' finance director in June 2011. His contract was for two years term with a salary of $65,000 per annum. The director's post was the same position he left vacant in December 2007.

PSS has been operating without a finance director since Waldo retired in 2007 during the tenure of former education commissioner Dr. David Borja.

Saipan Tribune learned that Waldo worked for PSS as acting director of finance from 2001 until December 2006. He was then formally appointed as director of finance until he retired in 2007.

Waldo obtained his business management degree from the University of California in Los Angeles and obtained his CPA in the State of New Hampshire. He also has a bachelor's degree in political science and history and has a master's degree in business management.

King to seek reelection at BOE

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Tanya Denise King, the incumbent representative of Rota to the State Board of Education, announced yesterday her plan of seeking reelection in the upcoming November polls.

King's term will expire in January 2013 and if she is fortunate enough to win, it will serve as her second term to the board after she was first elected to the position in 2007. This year's term provides four years of service to the elected board member.

When asked about her motivation to run anew, King told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she felt that there were several items that are very close to her heart that she wanted to continue working on for students of the Commonwealth and the Public School System.

Among these is her desire to provide PSS employees more care and assistance by allowing them to receive sick leave donations from their peers so they could use them in seeking medical treatment off-island.

King's proposal recently passed the committee level and would be endorsed to the full board next meeting for final action. Appreciative of the committee's favorable response to her proposed policy, King said this will bring nothing but positive results to the system: loyal and productive employees at all levels. King said she worked and lobbied for the proposal for seven months before it was adopted by the committee recently.

Also included among King's top goals is the continued transparency and accountability at PSS as well as the importance of building local capacity.

The board member also emphasized the need for PSS to utilize its resources in the most frugal way. Analyzing the situation on how PSS can best put its money, she said, is key to successfully operate the system.

But King said, she is most passionate about bringing equal educational opportunities to Saipan, Rota, and Tinian students. She said she will encourage the offering of more online and technical vocational programs for Tinian and Rota students so they can also be provided equitable educational opportunities like their counterparts on Saipan.

King is the chairperson of the board's fiscal personnel affairs committee. She is among the five voting members onboard which also include Marylou Ada, Lucia Blanco Maratita, Herman Guerrero, and Galvin Deleon Guerrero, whose term is also set to expire. Unlike King though Deleon Guerrero is still undecided whether to seek reelection or not in November.

Class C underground storage tank training now available

The Federal Energy Policy Act enacted by Congress in 2005 mandates training for all underground storage tank system operators. This means by Aug. 8, 2012, all facilities with underground storage tank systems permitted through the Division of Environmental Quality must have trained Primary and Emergency Response Operators.

The Emergency Response Operator (Class C) training is now available and is only available online.

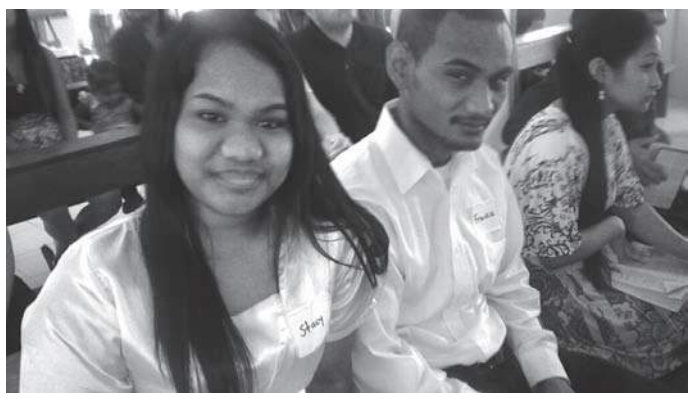
To obtain certification as a Class C Operator of an underground storage tank system, you need to complete the five brief interactive lessons, the short quizzes, and review the useful handouts. Once you pass the online course, you will receive a certificate of completion. The course is self-paced and all you need is high-speed Internet and computer speakers. Multiple Users: If you buy more than one Class C license at a time, select the "Training Place" option when you checkout to easily share training with your coworkers.

In the event that you do not have high-speed Internet or speakers, you may take the certification and training online at the DEQ office. Testing days are only available on these Mondays: July 2, July 9, July 23, July 30, and Aug. 6. Testing shall be every hour. To reserve your time-slot, call DEQ to make an appointment.

As previously announced, the Primary Operator (Class A/B) training and certification shall be held on July 17 and 18; registration will close on Tuesday, June 26. This training is live (in person) and seating is limited.

For more information about the UST training and certifications offered, call the DEQ at 664-8500 or 8511 or send an email to jacoblizama@deq.gov.mp. ***(DEQ)***

CHANCE ENCOUNTERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Angelray Guerrero, center, and his brother Joe Guerrero Jr., right, have their picture taken with *Leland* Blaine Chapman, the son of Duane Chapman, who is more popularly know as *Dog the Bounty Hunter*, while shopping at Safeway in Hawaii.



CONFIRMATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Congratulations to Stacy Monique and Frankie Ramangmou Jr. on their confirmation! God bless and may you never forget the word of God. From Mom, Dad, Tinon, Shaceyjane, and Shabjae we love you guys.

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†$0 intro annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is $45 per card. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply.

Joeten donates $1K to Manta Ray Band

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CLARISSA V. DAVID

The Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band under the direction of Will DeWitt performs for the crowd at the American Memorial Park for the start of the Korean Culture Festival in Saipan Monday night.

J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, which operates the Joeten stores on island, recently made a donation to the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band in support of the group's efforts to raise funds for their London trip next month to perform at the 2012 Summer Olympics.

A check worth $1,000 was presented last June 9 to Manta Ray Band director Will DeWitt and over 40 band members at the Joeten Susupe Shopping Center, where the group provided live entertainment as a treat for customers.

The band performed music by Michael Jackson, Lionel Richie, Duke Ellington, Quincy Jones, Earth Wind and Fire, and *Mariana Variations*, a new piece based on the melody of the CNMI anthem.

The group's performance, which was a glimpse of their London performance, also culminated Joeten's 63rd anniversary festivities which spanned for over a month.

Frannie T. Demapan, marketing manager and buyer, said yesterday that J.C. Tenorio Enterprises has been a big supporter of schools and young talents on island.

The donation, she said, is one way of giving back to the Saipan Southern High School where many of their employees come from.

Although the band is still short of the $250,000 amount they need for the trip, Demapan is optimistic that other community members would throw in any amount to help the group reach their goal.

"We wish them the best of luck and we look forward to seeing them either online or on television playing at the Olympic games," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Demapan added that band director DeWitt expressed his gratitude to the Joeten management in supporting the band's efforts to represent the CNMI in London.

KHS to host this year's AP Summer Institute

This summer Kagman High School will be hosting the 11th Annual College Board endorsed Advanced Placement Summer Institute.

Each of the courses offered in this year's Advanced Placement Summer Institute will meet the training needs for both the Pre-AP and AP teacher. It is encouraged that junior high teachers sign up for this professional development opportunity in order to expand the AP Programs across all of the CNMI.

Pre-AP professional development workshops are designed to help any teacher instill more rigor in the courses they are teaching students in the years prior to AP. Courses using Pre-AP strategies are academically advanced courses designed to challenge motivated students to learn rigorous content. The course requires students to participate in independent and group assignments that are analytical and complete a substantial amount of coursework outside of class. Courses using Pre-AP Strategies are designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Thus, if more teachers are trained to have a Pre-AP focus, more students will be prepared to take AP courses.

Courses available are:

■ AP Studo Art

■ Pre-AP Strategies: Topics for AP Vertical Teams in English

■ Pre-AP Strategies: AP Vertical teams for Mathematics

■ Pre-AP and AP U.S. History

The event will take place from June 26 to 2012 at the Kagman High School campus from 8am to 3pm. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Register by emailing Leila.staffler@cnmipss.org ASAP. Spaces are limited so email today! Registration fee for non-PSS employees is $100. Payment is due on the first day of the institute. PSS employees' registration fees are waived. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Animal Health Clinic services resume

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources has resumed its Animal Health Clinic services, which will open twice weekly, to pet owners who want to avail of immunizations for their cats and dogs. Dr. Ignacio T. dela Cruz, DVM was recently retained as the CNMI State Veterinarian. The State Veterinarian is responsible for reviewing and approving permits to import and to export live animals such as livestock, poultry, birds, and pets such as dogs and cats into the CNMI. This includes animal products and byproducts, meat, poultry and processed egg products. USDA-APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine rules, laws and regulations, as well as local regulations will be implemented and enforced. Dr. dela Cruz will also conduct national program animal disease testing such as brucellosis and tuberculosis as the need arise. Dr. dela Cruz will also provide meat and poultry inspection services, conduct antimortem and post-mortem inspection on suspect animals and animals with pathological lesions or conditions. He will act as a USDA relief inspector whenever needed. For more information on Animal Clinic hours, contact DLNR Division of Agriculture, As Perdido at 234-6169. ***(DLNR)***

Free business workshops

The CNMI Small Business Development Center, in partnership with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, presents the following free workshops:

■ How to start a business: June 22, 2012

■ How to write a business plan: June 29, 2012

■ How to read your financial statements: July 6, 2012

■ How to market your business: July 13, 2012

The workshops will be held at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office on the first floor of the Familia Building in Garapan. All workshops will be from 9am to 11am. Register online at http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/.Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, one day before the workshop. For more information contact Linda at 664-3018 or linda@pacificsbdc.com. The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. For arrangements, contact Linda, Tel: (670) 664-3018, or email linda@pacificsbdc.com. ***(PR)***

Pew to host screening of 'Sanctuary: Last Stand for Sharks'

On Friday, June 22, and Saturday, June 23, the Pew Environment Group will host public screenings of *Sanctuary: The Last Stand for Sharks*, a new documentary that portrays the underwater world of sharks and the global threats they face. This hour-long film, directed and produced by John Weller and Shawn Heinrichs, highlights the important steps needed to protect sharks in Federated States of Micronesia waters and the growing movement in the Pacific to prevent extinction and save these threatened species. The film also portrays the most recent protections and depicts the global threats faced by sharks. Watch the trailer on http://youtu.be/ZIeuIECJbeo. The Friday screening will be held at the Hopwood Junior High School on Saipan at 7pm, while the Saturday screening will be at the American Memorial Park at 7pm. The screenings will be attended by the film's director, Weller, and Liz Karan and Angelo Villagomez of the Global Shark Conservation Campaign, Pew Environment Group. The Pew Environment Group is the conservation arm of The Pew Charitable Trusts, a nongovernmental organization that works globally to establish pragmatic, science-based policies that protect our oceans, preserve our wildlands, and promote clean energy. For more information, visit www.PewEnvironment.org. ***(Pew)***

MHS Class of 2002 Reunion Dinner

Attention all MHS Class of 2002. A Reunion Dinner Banquet will be held on Saturday, June 23, 2012 from 6pm to 10pm at Pacific Islands Club. Color attire is black, red, or white. Payments received at the door on the day of the event will be $26 per person. RSVP is required For more information, contact Tomokane at 483-0805. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 20, 2000

BOE pursues honorarium for traveling members

The State Board of Education is currently looking into possible changes to its own by laws with regard to a board policy which does not specify that board members are entitled to receive honorarium while on official travel status. Citing a certain provision in the BOE by laws, Public School System Legal Counsel Tim Connor said that though it is not against existing BOE rules to provide honorarium to any board member traveling under PSS-related business, existing practices dictate otherwise. Mr. Connor commented the practice is somewhat "discriminatory" especially for non-Saipan board members since most board meetings are held here.

SBDC urges businesses to give emphasis on customer service

While there are a variety of available schemes a business may utilize to attract customer patronage, it takes so much effort to keep them coming back. In fact, concerns on the quality of service customers receive or, in some cases, do not get have consistently been topped the list of issues local businesses have been eagerly wanting to promptly and effectively address in order to improve sales. The Small Business Development Center of the Northern Marianas College is making it easy for local entrepreneurs to improve relationship with their patrons through a workshop aimed at improving the delivery of services to customers, considered the lifeblood of any investment.

Jun. 20, 2001

BEH: Food stores obey sanitation standards

The Department of Public Health yesterday said that majority of food establishments on Saipan maintain good sanitation. "In general, establishments on Saipan are clean," said Ed Camacho, Professional Support Services Unit supervisor of the DPH's Bureau of Environmental Health. Camacho made the statement in a phone interview following a week-long sanitary inspection of business establishments on Saipan, which began last June 10.

Shipping firm donates to MVA

Ambyth Shipping donated $1,000 to the Marianas Visitors Authority to help defray some of the expenses incurred for meeting and greeting the various military ships that pulled in and use the CNMI as a rest and recreation port. MVA Managing Director Perry Tenorio accepted the donation from Fred Taitague, manager for Agency and Logistics at Ambyth Shipping, the husbanding agent for the US Naval vessels that use Saipan as a port of call. "We recognize MVA's efforts of welcoming all the military ships that visit the CNMI periodically and we appreciate the huge contributions they make -- from the entertainment to the information tables set up at the port," said Taitague.

Jun. 20, 2002

Banking commissioner OK'd sale of BoS stocks: O'Connor

Accused of allowing alleged "crooks" from Texas and California to purchase some $3.5 million of the Bank of Saipan's shares, BoS shareholder, the Calvo group, through lawyer Robert O'Connor, returned the blame on the CNMI Banking Commissioner for allegedly approving the sale to the businessmen without conducting background checks on the prospective buyers. Counsel for the Banking Commissioner, Assistant Attorney General Allan Dollison, told Superior Court Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama yesterday that the BoS board of directors accepted $3.5 million from the so-called "crooks" for the purchase of the bank's shares. But O'Connor refuted the government's contention, clarifying that the sale was never consummated.

Bill seeks to ease CUC's obligation

Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero has filed legislation seeking to approve the waiver of all accumulated interest and penalties owed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to the Commonwealth Development Authority on the government firm's outstanding loans. Once passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor, Guerrero's Senate Bill 13-59 forgoes the accrued interest and applicable penalties to the utility firm's outstanding loans from the CDA, which amounts to $51.5 million. "The Legislature finds that the CUC has several loans outstanding with the CDA. The purpose of the loans was for CUC to undertake major capital improvement projects in the Commonwealth," S.B. 13-59 reads.

CUC sets new sewer line smoke testing schedule

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will be smoke-testing the sanitary sewer lines in Chalan LauLau (Main Road), Middle Road, Beach Road, Quarter Master, As Terlaje, As Lito, Finasisu, and Chalan Piao beginning Monday, June 18, through Friday, July 13. The testing, which involves forcing smoke into the sanitary sewer lines, will check for leaks, breaks, and defects in the system.

The smoke is odorless, creates no fire hazard and will not enter your home or business unless you have defective plumbing or dried-up sink traps or floor drains. The smoke test should only affect your property for approximately 15 minutes. The smoke used for this test is manufactured strictly for this purpose, leaves no residuals or stains and has no effect on plants and animals. Direct contact with the smoke may cause minor respiratory irritation in some people.

If people in your building suffer from a heart condition, asthma, emphysema or some other respiratory condition and are planning to stay in the building during testing, notify the CUC Wastewater Operations at (670) 322-5032 (or 322-5033) to discuss your specific case.

Prior to testing, please pour two gallons of water in any seldom-used sinks and floor drains to prevent sewer gases, smoke and odors from entering the premises. If smoke does enter your home during testing, immediately remove yourself from the building, notify the crews that are conducting the test or call CUC. Again, if smoke enters your home, it is an indication of a plumbing defect, so you should also notify a plumber. Please note, the correction of any defects is the responsibilities of the property owner.

Smoke that you will see coming from the vent stacks on houses is normal. However, smoke coming from holes in the grounds is not normal and is considered a defect. All such defects will be logged. CUC will then contact the property owners if a defect is located on private property.

This smoke testing is part of CUC's continuing effort to provide a safe, economical, efficient, and environmentally sound sewer system. The smoke testing procedure has been recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as an effective means of identifying problem areas in the sewer system. Eliminating system defects and illegal connections will help our community remain in compliance with the federal legislation regarding sewer systems maintenance and sanitary sewer overflows.

Contact CUC Wastewater Operations at (670) 322-5032 (or 322-5033) with any questions or concerns. ***(CUC)***

Public comments sought on draft EIS on divert activities in CNMI

On June 8, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Divert Activities and Exercises was released for public review. The U.S. Air Force will be conducting several public information hearings to allow the public to submit comments on the draft EIS.

This EIS studies the potential impacts of the proposed action of developing divert capabilities within the CNMI. This will ensure mission capability requirements by establishing a location to support and conduct emergency divert requirements, joint military training and exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities in the event that access to Joint Region Marianas-Andersen or other Western Pacific locations are limited or denied. The two possible locations considered were Saipan International Airport and Tinian International Airport.

The U.S. Air Force will be hosting two informational sessions on Saipan for the residents of Koblerville and Dandan because of their proximity to the airport, they will be the most impacted.

The first pre-hearing community outreach session for Koblerville residents will be on Saturday, June 23, at Saipan Southern High School's cafeteria from 4pm to 6pm. On Sunday, June 24, for the Dandan residents, the second session will be held at Dandan Elementary School's cafeteria from 4pm to 6pm.

On Monday, June 25, there will be a general public hearing at the Multi-Purpose Center from 5pm to 8pm.

On Tuesday, June 26, there will be a public hearing on Tinian at the Tinian Elementary School's cafeteria from 5pm-8pm. On Wednesday, June 27, there will be a public information meeting on Rota at the Mayor's Office from 4pm to 5:30pm.

The public hearings allow the public an opportunity to provide verbal comments that will become part of the record for the EIS development process. The public can continue to submit comments during the comment period, which is for 45 days and ends on July 23.

For more information and to submit comments, visit the website www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com. You may also contact the Military Integration Office at 664-2276 or via email at: mio@gov.mp. ***(Office of the Governor)***

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Johanzem Pangelinan Sablan! May your lives be filled with joy, laughter and happiness! From the Billa-Bolis family, Leslie, Randall, AJ, RJ, Mona, and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Everyone should celebrate that one special day in their lives every year. The day they can truly call their own. And on this day, June 20, happens to be your special day. Happy birthday Isadora Lynn Sakisat. Love you always, forever and ever!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to our goddaughter, Shanelle Franceen Lizana Yamada! May the Lord bless you on your special day with many more birthdays to come. We love you. Greetings come from Nino Craig and Nina

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program
P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4480/81/82 Fax No. (670) 664-4483

PUBLIC HEARING:

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor in cooperation with the Department of Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) will be conducting a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed WAP State Plan for Program Year 2012. The public hearing will be held at the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House #1337, July 3, 2012, Tuesday from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. A copy of the State Plan can be picked up at the Energy Division on Tuesday, June 26, 2012. For those who are unable to attend the public hearing in person, you may submit your written comments to the Energy Division, Capital Hill, House #1337, Saipan; or can be e-mailed to: energy@pticom.com or by mail to P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 on or before close of business at 4:30pm, Monday, July 9, 2012.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Energy Division at 664-4480/1.

INEKUNGUK PUPBLIKU

I Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha Ufisinan I Gubietnu dumanña' yan I Dipattamentun Public Works, Dibision Energy Prugråman Inasistin Weatherization (WAP) para u kondukta I inekunguk pupbliku ni para u risibi imfotmasion siha gi I maproponi na Prugråman WAP State Plan gi sakkan 2012.

I inekunguk pupbliku para u masusedi guati gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Guma' #1337, gi Huliu 3, 2012, Måttis ginin oran alas kuåttru imedia (4:30pm) gi oran alas singku imedia (5:30pm). I kopian I State Plan siña machuli' gi Dibision Energy gi Måttis, Huniu 26, 2012.

Para atyu siha I ti siña umatendi I inekunguk petsonåt, siña muna' hålum tinigi' imfotmasion siha guatu para I Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill Guma' #1337, Saipan, patsiña ma' email gi energy@pticom.com, pat gi mail para I P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 gi pat antis di u mahuchum gi ufisina gi alas kuåttru imedia (4:30), gi Lunis, Huliu 9, 2012.

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Commonwealth Téél Falúw kka Faluwasch Efáng Marinas, bwulasiyool Sów Lemelem fengal me alillisil Bwulasiyool Public Works/Energy. Dibision-il Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) ebwe ayoora eew public hearing reel ebwe bweibwogh mámáf reel pomwol Progrómal State Plan 2012.

Public hearing yeel nge Ió Energy Division, Capital Hill, House # 1337, Ullyo 3, 2012, Mwáttis sángi 4:30 ngáli 5:30pm. Kkopiyal State Plan yeel nge emwel rebwe bwughi me Energy Division wool Mwáttis, Unnyo 26, 2012.

Schóókka reset awe rebwe fiti arong yeel, emmwel schagh ubwe ischilong mááfiyómw reel Energy Division, Capital Hill, House # 1337, Seipél: me ngáli: energy@pticom.com me ngare affanga ngáli P.O. Box 500340. SEipel, MP 96950 wóól me ngáre mmwal igha ebwe tittiló ótol angaang 4:30 wóól Luunis Ullyo 9, 2012.

Ngáre eyoor yóómw ayegh, faingi Energy Division reel 664-4480/1.

/s/ Vicente B. Castro
Acting Secretary of Public Works

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW12-IFB-007

SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE MARPI SOLID WASTE FACILITY

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), are soliciting sealed Bids for **Security Services** for the Marpi Solid Waste Facility (MSWF) on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after June 06, 2012 at the Office of the Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station, Lower Base, Saipan.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, under Article 7, "Local Business Preference," as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118. Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with § **70-30.3-205** of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for 09:30 a.m., local time, at the Solid Waste Management Division office, Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station on June 25, 2012. The prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the MSWF facility. Questions regarding this IFB must be submitted in writing to Mr. Alex S. Chong, Director of Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station, Saipan, or fax to (670) 322-2762 no later than 4:00 p.m. local time July 02, 2012.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW12-IFB-007."** For bidders within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, July 16, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a **Notice of Intent to Bid**. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, July 16, 2012, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 16, 2012, and must be received no later July 26, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m., local time, July 30, 2012. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m., local time, on July 16, 2012.

The successful bidder to this IFB will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with § **70-30.3-245** of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

All response to this IFB shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the bidder awarded a contract for this project.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfections in any bids in the best interest of the Government. All bids shall become the property of the Government.

/s/ VICENTE B. CASTRO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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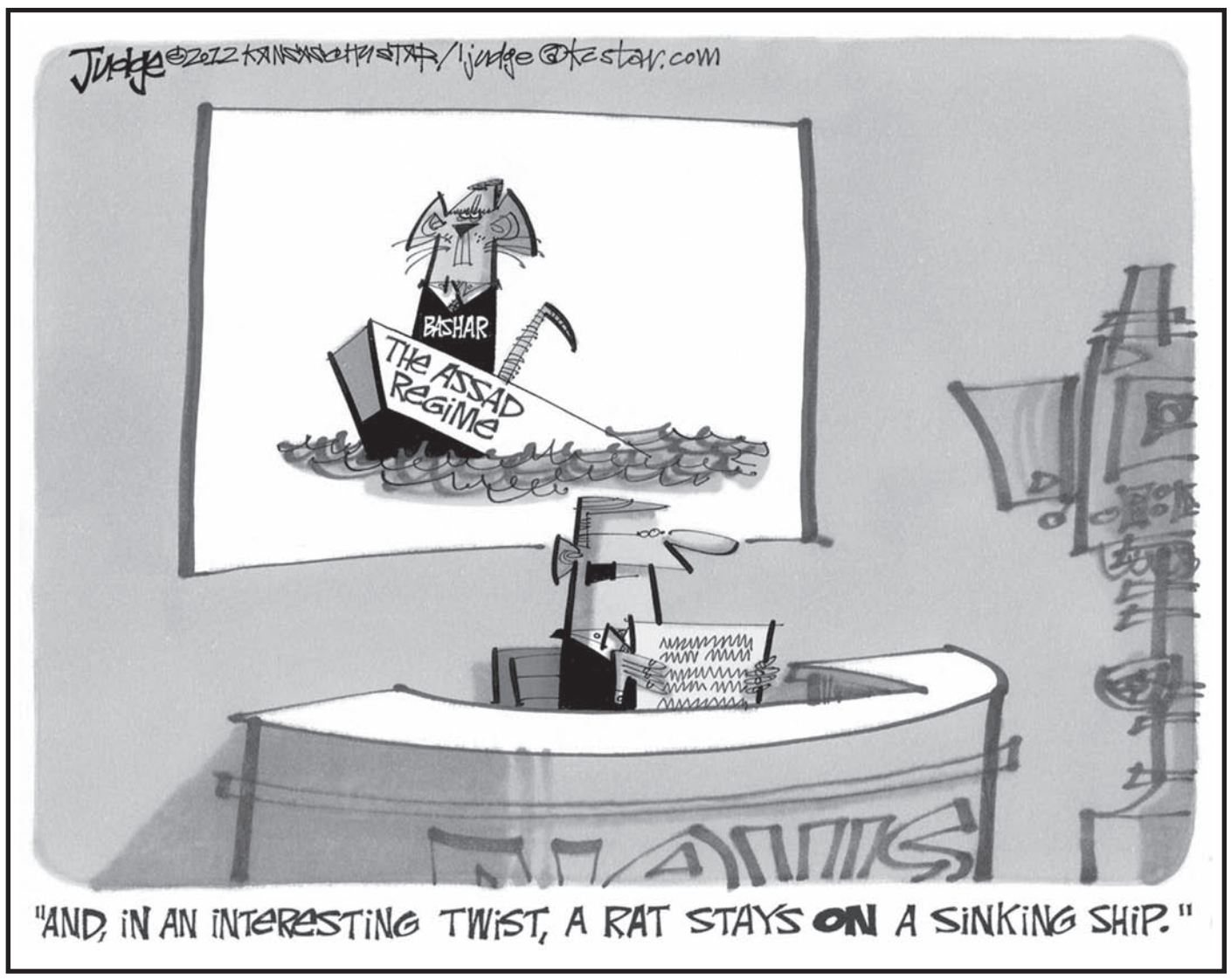


EDITORIAL

A little Russian help? Nyet

After the appalling slaughter of women and children in the Syrian town of Houla, official Washington trampled a well-trod path to Moscow. U.S. officials sought to persuade the Kremlin—aka Russian President Vladimir Putin—to stop propping up Syrian President Bashar Assad.

For a few moments, hope flickered in Western capitals that Putin would seize the opportunity to crowbar Assad from power.

In recent days, though, Russia has delivered its response. Instead of promoting a cease-fire and peaceful transition of power in Syria, Moscow is sending attack helicopters to Damascus, according to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. A Russian influx of arms would "escalate the conflict quite dramatically," Clinton warned.

Moscow insists these helicopters are for Syria's self-defense—and subsequent reports suggested the choppers were merely being repaired and serviced in Russia. But we repeat: attack helicopters.

A civil war grips Syria. This conflict is ugly and will get uglier. More arms are flowing to Damascus. More arms are flowing to the anti-Assad opposition, bankrolled by Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

The U.S. stance? Obama administration officials are rooting for, but won't directly arm, the rebels. But U.S. intelligence agents and diplomats reportedly are stepping up efforts to help them. That means Americans are helping to "coordinate" shipments to the opposition—and trying to make sure these weapons don't end up in the hands of al-Qaida or other terror groups.

The U.S. needs to drop its reticence and throw more support behind the rebels. Give them weapons and more logistical help to dramatically increase the pressure on Assad. Because as long as Assad has free rein to murder his fellow citizens, and as long as Russia stands by its longtime ally, there's virtually no chance for a negotiated settlement to the horrifying conflict. U.N. panjandrum Kofi Annan, whose name is now synonymous with a spectacularly ineffectual "peace plan" for Syria, can save his breath. Begging Assad to stop the killing is like wishing for snow on a blistering summer day.

Meanwhile, undefended innocents die.

There's no appetite among NATO countries, including the U.S., to intervene militarily. No use pretending that one more massacre will push the Western powers to put boots on Syrian ground, or planes in the air over Syria. That won't happen. With Putin's support—that is, with Putin's rebuke to Western appeals—Assad could rule indefinitely.

For the moment, this conflict puts Russia exactly where it wants to be: wielding influence on a geopolitical battle with immense stakes. The Russians have strong reason to support Assad—and not only because doing so vexes the West. Assad spends untold millions on Russian arms. Damascus is Moscow's most loyal ally in the heart of the Middle East. So the global attention on Putin—What will he do?—feeds Russia's illusion that it is still a dominant world power.

But Putin must know that civil war in Syria ultimately damages the Russian brand. To the extent that Moscow increasingly owns this chaos, its lethal spread undercuts Putin's pretension that Assad is more than just a butcher.

What's more, Putin is squandering a grand opportunity: Russia's military has deep ties to Syria's military, and the Russians could serve a pivotal role in helping guarantee order in a political transition. Or they can continue to enable the bloodbath.

Clinging to a disgraced dictator won't endear Moscow to the next leaders of Syria. Until Putin figures that out, Syrians will suffer.

(c)2012 Chicago Tribune

World Refugee Day

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Boat people from Vietnam sailed to where they expected to be taken for asylum. When preferred destination Hong Kong got too crowded, the Philippines became America's processing center of refugees. The term "refugee" refers to an asylum seeker recognized by the state where a claim is made.

I worked to train Peace Corps volunteers in the '80s and some language instructors and ex-PCVs ended in the Bataan Refugee center. I never made it to the site, but the reality of refugees in Philippine soil gave us some serious pause.

My Judeo-Christian upbringing provided me with an attitude of preferential treatment toward the "the alien and stranger." Sojourners in Egypt, Canaan, Assyria, and Babylon understood their finitude and temporality in the land of their fathers!

After the holocaust of WWII, we were supportive of the Jews in diaspora establishing a home of their own. When the prospects of claiming sovereign status for a Palestine to include the nation Israel, we were, as the Philippines did in the United Nations' vote, all for it.

Ironically, the 3 million Jews surrounded by 120 million belligerent Arabs left the survival of the new nation in a precarious situation that elicited a worldwide net of sympathy and support, until the same nation of refugees turned around to create a new group of refugees in Palestine. There are now two generations in Gaza who knows nothing else in life but being a refugee.

In the attention garnered by Darfur, Sudan, women and children mirror innocent suffering. The wrenching conflict that arose as a consequence of the Civil War in Sudan (rooted in oil, of course) between the majority Islamic north and the non-Arab south, spilled into Chad and the Central African Republic. Darfur dramatically focuses the refugee situation in the world, and why it is that this vestige of nation-state definition, a left over from European colonial times, is allowed to continue.

Legal instruments have been devised to deal with the issue of crossing borders. We have federalism in the United States that allows residents of every state to freely cross borders. The EU started the same recently as well, causing furor when immigrants took advantage of the new open borders. Indigene sensitivities were shaken and racial prejudices long dormant in the aftermath of the claim of Aryan supremacy reemerged.

Not quite offering free mobility to citizens, free trade allows for the smooth flow of goods and services across borders. Already in place in U.S. inter-State commerce, it extended to NAFTA that allows free trade between Canada-U.S.-Mexico, though their borders remain controlled, more stringently in the U.S. south, as it is lax in the north.

South American signatories of the Mercosur *(Mercado common del Sur)* practice some form of open borders and free trade. So do the U.K. and Ireland, New Zealand, and Australia.

The United States has a visa waiver program we are familiar with in the CNMI. Favoring those countries with a high human development index rating and standard of living (save Russia and China in the Marianas), those in the program can travel to the U.S. for 90 days without first securing a travel visa.

Our allegiance is to the blue orb rotating around the solar system, and we promote a more global sense of open borders. From a human rights perspective, migration complements the U.N. Universal Declaration on Human Rights that advocates freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state, the right to leave any country, including one's own, and to return at will.

At the end of 2005, refugees came from Afghanistan, Iraq, Sierra Leone, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, and Palestine. We have our own contingent of asylum seeking Falun Gong/Dafa in Saipan; prominent in the Garapan street market, their reputation is a bit tarnished by the rumor that they ingratiate themselves to ICE by informing on their own compatriots. 20,000 bonded servants from China once staffed our ill-fated garment industry.

Fear of harm for one's survival undergirds the plight of the refugee. Freedom from fear is one of four vaunted pillars in American democracy. Unfortunately, we are selective on those we save, ourselves fearful of the influx of the unwashed and the unschooled. Ben Fitial's fear leads the pack in the Marianas, it seems. Much of this fear is the prospect of having the indigene cultural identity obliterated by the staying power of "the alien and the stranger" in their home turf.

The cultured and educated indigene long ago saw the handwriting on the wall, and now reside in the Southwest deserts and Pacific Northwest states of the Union.

Israel turned around to make refugees out of their Semitic cousins. The ill-conceived policy to preserve colonial boundaries after WWII resulted in racial discord, and add the addiction to oil, it made the forceful maintenance of national borders a matter of profit.

Meanwhile, the earth plunges into outer space oblivious of the artificial political boundaries we impose on its geography.

"You were strangers in a strange land," sayeth the Lord, is an old statement about our state of being, not the location of our citizenship. From this view, there are no refugees on planet earth!

Fear is real, not perceived

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.*

Many, if not most, voters will vote for change this mid-term election. Why? Fearful people would give it their all (silently too) to change their circumstance. After all, the elected elite is visibly and clearly exhausted. It has lost touch with reality as "do-nothings," a tale of inexperience handling power, ineptitude, and leadership atrophy or obsolescence.

You see, the behavior of voting folks isn't wedged in any ideological or philosophical beliefs. It is perception and the delivery of such perception at the voting booths that would force a shift that removes them from having to perpetuate apocalyptic conditions today.

The disastrous economy plastered in uncertainty had overridden any other issue in this hellish hole. If a slick politician wishes to offer change, we ask: Will it be more of the same or worse, sir? You see, simple folks worry about the certainty of their jobs as revenue generation degenerates quickly. They know that the contraction would eventually translate into reduction in force.

Whatever happened to the offer of "better times"? Was it devoured by the economy as it sleepwalks toward Fiscal Cliff? It goes to show that vision isn't sufficient for any leader to pull through. He must enunciate it and prove he's worth the salt of voters via leadership by example.

The economic depression—a condition far worse than a recession—is real, not perceived. Folks are fearful that they would lose their jobs. Retirees also know that their pension paychecks may soon disappear. Scholarship funds are contracting and evaporating that doesn't leave students much hope for the future. The perception of fear is a very powerful emotion that is difficult to untangle once it sits.

Therefore, the real fear of job losses in the near term, pension paychecks evaporating, scholarship funds disappearing; first family homes suffering foreclosures; high cost of utilities; tax increases versus business; didn't ring a bell in order for the elected elite to sooth the angst of voters. Instead, they all leave Capital Hill daily before sunset contented of their fully earned trophy inscribed, "Do-Nothings". And as the fear perception deepens, the guys and gals are still playing "hide-and-seek" who's going to call the next leadership meeting. A`Saina!

■ ■ ■

Hypocrisy of Article 12

The shifting sands of hypocrisy underneath the wobbly feet of folks peddling Article 12 have become a personal study in contradiction. Proponents comprised of bigots and racists wish to keep NMI indigenous hegemony and pure through this unconstitutional provision.

On the flip side, they want to open the floodgates via the powerful agent of change, casino, to secure the exact opposite. Which is which? Is it indigenous hegemony or permanent displacement of your people? Your positions are oxymoronic at best, disoriented at worse.

Furthermore, they feel shamelessly contented that while its position literally denies others "equal protection" under the law of the land, it's perfectly suitable for them that we spend the tax contributions of these folks for essential NMI services. Isn't this a complete case of hypocrisy that has no place under a democratic republic?

For some reason, this mindset depicts Obama's agenda to tax the wealthy and rich for his purposes. But he won't come out publicly in fundraisers to say so when the donors and sponsors are funneling thousands of dollars into his war chest. This must be the pinnacle of hypocrisy! Did we learn this from him or did he acquire it from the NMI?

Now, there's universal fear that constantly feeds upon itself: the deceleration of investments that concurrently depletes revenues in the local coffers. The simple folks hopelessly pine for answers but the guys and gals on the hill are still struggling to get together. Would you believe this? Do these guys have any inkling that this government is literally broke? The prevailing hysteresis isn't going to cough out a miracle at year's end. No sir! The issues before you require real time proactive leadership not obsolescence, dismissive acquiescence and neglect.

The deepening political divide has wedged any meaningful meeting. Now, everyone is parroting a familiar expletive, "Screw You!" Nah! At the end of the day, it is the taxpayers who get the perfect royal screw from simpletons who have forgotten what leadership is all about.

The deepening intransigence while we eat away the tax contributions of non-indigenous folks we've denied "equal protection" to meet our needs. Does the elected elite have any moral compass at all? Did they park their Christian values in their back pockets? How long could they honestly embrace hypocrisy?

■ ■ ■

Investors flock to US

Eduardo Saverin, the Facebook co-founder that renounced his U.S. citizenship to avoid paying taxes, is probably of the belief that his action would spur others to do likewise.

Well, not quite, Mr. Saverin. Today, thousands of wealthy foreigners are flocking to the U.S. to invest and in the process secure U.S. citizenship. This phenomenon creates wealth and in turn, jobs; big time too!

Under the federal government's EB5 Immigrant Investor Program, foreign investors can get conditional visas that allow them and their families to live, work and attend school in the U.S.

To qualify for the visa, they must invest at least $1 million in a new or recently created business, or $500,000 for businesses in rural or high-unemployment areas.

The investment must be demonstrated to have created or preserved at least 10 full-time jobs for U.S. workers within two years. The success rate is astonishing that some 20 countries have keenly followed the U.S. on this innovative method of investment. They could make it but not as good as what the U.S. offers for well-heeled immigrant investors.

Too, the flock of new investors has equally exploited real estate markets across the country. They are interested in a new family home and a good neighborhood where their kids could go to school and bolt into what personal freedom offers upon graduation from college. The US seems to hold the prize of an innovative paradigm to investment designed to improve cities and towns across the country ravaged by the lean times.

The NMI has sought for the establishment of a regional center for EB5 Immigrant Investor Program. But in doing so, it must also eradicate bad policies that deny investors "equal protection" in these isles. This is a hurdle it must overcome with agility in the short term. If it doesn't happen, then it's stuck in the filthy mud that its people could have their cake and eat it too.

The spiritual challenges of the CNMI

By RUSS MASON, M.S.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal Alternative & Complementary Therapies*. His principal assignment was to interview a physician, or other health care practitioner, about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.*

Long ago, Mohandas Gandhi wrote, "Everything we do is futile, but we must do it anyway." In writing the following essay, I realize that it is likely to prove futile. That is, positive change is unlikely to come from anyone reading this and, as a result, change their spiritual outlook. Or, more importantly, to seek to influence others. This is difficult. Indeed, there is nothing more difficult than to develop a spiritual insight and then to trust it.

When I say that the CNMI is spiritually challenged, it is evident with anyone who has the eyes to see clearly. It is easy to blame the current troubles at CHC, CUC, the Retirement Fund, and other institutions merely on a lack of funds. On the surface, that is true. But these decaying institutions are merely symptoms of a larger problem: our islands are spiritually challenged.

When I refer to spirituality, I am not talking about religion.

A religion, simply put, is a community of people who share similar beliefs about God, morality, rituals, holidays, and so on. But being observant and going to church each Sunday does not imply a spiritual connection. An individual is capable of being religious without being spiritual. The reverse is also true: a spiritual person may or may not be a member of a religious faith.

Where the waters become muddy is that many assume a person is spiritual if they attend church or make other demonstrations of faith on a regular basis. But frankly, religion has little to do with it.

Understanding spirituality is fairly simple. Imagine a line, from left to right. On the left is the Ego; on the right is Spirit, and the ability to trust in Spirit, or God. Those on the Egoic left are very much "in and of the world." Their egos tell them they are smart, clever, handsome, and are deserving of All Good Things. These people have little interest in engendering a spiritual connection; they have money, often power, and life is good—on the surface. They may practice a religion, not fully believing it. They go to church to make sure they are seen by others, not to truly ask forgiveness or to give thanks or to otherwise humble themselves before a Spirit greater than their own.

Those who are ego-driven go through life with blinders on. They do not see the little miracles, or other manifestations of Grace, which happen all the time to each of us. Most do not know how to look for them, and probably would be skeptical if something was pointed out. And yet I can point to numerous incidents in my life that suggest that there is a greater force than my own ego working on my behalf. I am not special, but some years ago I did develop the ability to "see" what was going on in my life. Nothing much was required of me except to do two things: notice what had occurred and to give thanks.

One day in 1990 I walked across Central Park in New York City. I was heading home. As I got to Central Park West, I thought of my friend Lee and went a block uptown out of my way since I knew he lived around there. As I got to the corner of Columbus, there was Lee, standing in front of his building. "Wow," I said, "I was just thinking of you—what a coincidence!" Lee smiled and nodded. Then he said, "Well, coincidences are God's way of remaining anonymous." The more I began to notice coincidences, or things just "turning up" in my life, the more I could see the manifestations of Grace. And if I ever became dubious about this process I would ask myself, "What are the odds of this happening?"

A few months ago, Young Lee, the KSPN reporter, was talking with a member of the government who had decided to withdraw all of his money from the Retirement Fund. "What about the other people?" asked Ms. Lee. "I don't care about them! I only care about me!"

It is all too easy to judge people like that, but judging the man's response only gives credence to the Egoic worldview; that somehow we are morally superior by not being so obviously greedy. However, if this man were living in spirit, he would not need to withdraw every penny of his money, and he certainly would not give a response like that.

The fact is that blessings come like rain on parched earth if one is able to create and maintain a spiritual practice. As my friend implied, noticing coincidences is a good first step. They happen all the time, to all of us, but few notice. Or they are dismissed as "coincidences." But the real spiritual meat of this process is that, over time, one sees the working of spirit in one's daily life. And, as I said before, only two things are necessary—to notice and to give thanks.

If we consider for a moment, no institution truly exists except on paper. Whether it is the administration or the Senate or the CHC board, it is made up of human beings who are divine aspects of God, or Spirit. It is always a collection of individuals that make up our institutions, whether it is government, a bank, or a baseball team.

But what has taken its toll over the decades in the CNMI are the manifestations of ego that permeate our institutions. So long as these individuals think they are more informed than God, or Spirit, they will fail to succeed. To correct this requires a couple of things. First, a true spiritual sense of serving others and trusting the spirit to back them up. If the person is sincere in his thanksgiving, Spirit will always shower more Grace on the person. Giving thanks, even for a much-needed parking space, is a step in the right direction.

In the 1940's there was a popular song that contained the lyric, "When I'm worried and I can't sleep, I count my blessings instead of sheep. And I fall asleep, counting my blessings." In the real sense of things, giving thanks for the good things that happens to us ensures that they will continue. This is often called Living in the Light. Living in the Ego is, in effect, Living in the Dark, and those who live in the dark can depend on a future of struggle, shortfalls, and heartbreak. That's what we have in the CNMI today. But the good news is t hat all of these challenges can be changed for the better. Institutions cannot be changed unless the people within them find their respective spiritual connections.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Road repair request

To Reps. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero and Joseph M. Palacios: On Nov. 8, 2011, I filed a request for road repair at the Mayor's Office. The road, Nagao Place, is eroded often from the runoff of the college. I also asked my neighbor, Mr. and Mrs. Cesar Villaluz, to help follow up the request. We did our job in following up the request; however, every time we call we are told that the machine for repair is being fixed. We regularly follow up this problem but it seems that there is no help in sight.

I read the papers that our Washington delegate is talking about unspent CIP federal grant. I know that this fund will go back to the feds if we do not spend it. Are there chances of re-programming the money in order to spend it where it is needed? If this is a possibility, why is there no action? What are we waiting for?

One of our big problems in the CNMI is the development and maintenance of our secondary roads; not just repair but plan, pave and fix them well so that they last. We, the residents *do not* have to ask for repair every time it rains.

Right now, what we need at Nagao Place is repair—a real good repair work. Next, the CNMI should plan and build secondary roads to last, not just repair them after the rain. Is there a highway engineer on the island or in Guam who can help? If we have to do the building of the roads well, we need the help of a competent engineer. Thank you.

Fe Calixterio
Nagao Place, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼78°	▲87 ° ▼80°	▲87° ▼80°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

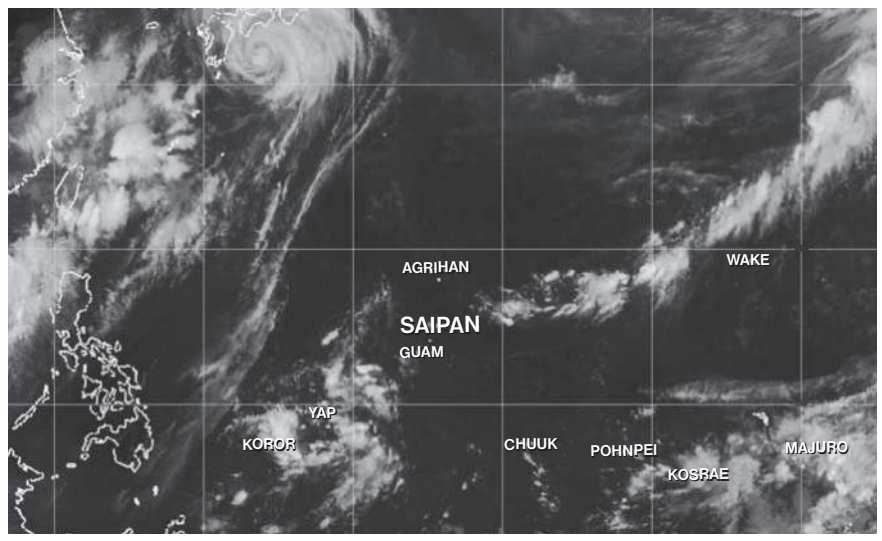
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲90	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲92	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲63	▼54
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲93	▼71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲93	▼83
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼57
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲91	▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼69
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲79	▼69
Paris	Showers	▲76	▼63
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼67
Rome	Sunny	▲93	▼71
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼48
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼54
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼68
Tokyo	Showers	▲83	▼71
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼73

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A broad circulation centered southeast of Palau at about 3N136E is associated with a surface trough that runs northeastward from the circulation to 12N138E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found around Yap and east of Koror between 4N and 12N from 135E to 143E. An extensive line of cloudiness and patchy rain with isolated thunderstorms is associated with an elongated trough northeast of the Marianas and north Wake Island within 150 miles of a line from 16N151E to 20N162E to north of 25N170E. A surface trough between Pohnpei and Kosrae runs northeastward from 3N161E to 8N165E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found southeast of Pohnpei between 4N and 6N from 159E to 161E and mainly east of Kosrae along and up to 300 miles southeast of the trough axis and extending into the trade-wind convergence zone that stretches between the equator and 10N from 168E to the dateline. Majuro is within this convergence zone.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
8:01 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:29 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
10:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:05 AM	7:18 PM
Thursday	6:57 AM	8:04 PM
Friday	7:49 AM	8:49 PM
Saturday	8:41 AM	9:32 PM
Sunday	9:34 AM	10:13 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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Business

Draft: G-20 will produce a plan for global growth

AP

Leaders of the G-20 and guests pose for the family photo in Los Cabos, Mexico, Monday, June 18, 2012. From left, Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard, Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, President Barack Obama, Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel, Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen, China's President Hu Jintao, India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos, Mexico's President Felipe Calderon, British Prime Minister David Cameron and Chile's President Sebastian Pinera.

LOS CABOS, Mexico (AP)—The leaders of the world's largest economies have agreed to step up their efforts to boost growth and job creation, which they call the top priority in fighting the effects of the European economic crisis, according to a draft of the statement to be released Tuesday at the end of the Group of 20 annual meeting.

The draft obtained by The Associated Press on Monday places the G-20 on the side of those who have been arguing for a focus on job creation, including through government spending, instead of the budget cutbacks and austerity pushed most notably by German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Germany feels that it been unfairly burdened by its large contributions to international bailouts of economically weaker European countries that overspent for years and, in exchange, it has been insisting on steep cutbacks from aid recipients such as Greece. Those cutbacks have led to dramatic economic hardship for voters in Greece and other countries. A growing number of European countries having been advocating spending and growth, not austerity, and the G-20 statement appears to place the group of the world's largest economies into that camp.

"We are united in our resolve to promote growth and jobs," the draft says, declaring that the leaders will announce the "coordinated Los Cabos Growth and Jobs Action Plan" to achieve those goals, although the draft does not provide details of the plan.

It throws its support specifically behind greater government spending as a response to a worsening global economy, saying that countries with the resources "stand ready" to take fiscal action.

The plan says the Obama administration pledged to prevent sharp tax increases and government spending cuts from kicking in at the end of the year, as scheduled under current law, to avoid sending the U.S. into another recession.

As G20 officials wrangled over last-minute changes in the wording of the statement, European leaders at the summit struggled to reassure the world Monday that they were on the path to solving their continent's relentless economic crisis, defending the pace of their response even as market pressures pushed Spain closer to needing a bailout that would strain the world's ability to pay.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Microsoft unveils 'Surface' tablet computer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Microsoft has unveiled Surface, a tablet computer to compete with Apple's iPad. CEO Steve Ballmer was on hand to announce the new tablet, calling it part of a "whole new family of devices" the company is developing. One version of the device, which won't go on sale until sometime in the fall, is 9.3 millimeter thick and works on the Windows RT operating system. It comes with a kickstand to hold it upright and a touch keyboard cover that snaps on using magnets. The device weighs under 1.5 pounds and will cost about as much as other tablet computers. Its debut is set to coincide with the upcoming fall release of Microsoft's much-anticipated Windows 8 operating system. Steven Sinofsky, president of Microsoft's Windows division, called the device a "tablet that's a great PC—a PC that's a great tablet."

Nuns start tour protesting Republican budget plan

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—A group of Roman Catholic nuns began a nine-state bus tour protesting proposed federal budget cuts Monday, saying they weren't trying to flout recent Vatican criticisms of socially active nuns but felt called to show how Republican policies are affecting low-income families. The tour was organized by Network, a Washington-based Catholic social justice group criticized in a recent Vatican report that said some organizations led by nuns have focused too much on economic injustice while failing to promote the church's teachings on abortion and same-sex marriage. The Vatican asked U.S. bishops to look at Network's ties to another group of nuns it is reorganizing because of what the church calls "serious doctrinal problems." Sister Simone Campbell, Network's executive director, while the tour may appear to have been organized to counter recent criticism of social activist nuns by the Vatican and American bishops, it was not. The timing was in response to consideration of the federal budget in Congress, she said.

Nation

Wildfires claim 189 homes

LOVELAND, Colo. (AP)—Firefighters faced dangerous conditions across much of the Rocky Mountain region Monday, as they toiled in hot, dry weather to battle a wildfire that has charred nearly 92 square miles in northern Colorado.

Authorities said they determined eight more homes have burned in the fire near Fort Collins. The blaze started June 9 and now has destroyed at least 189 homes—the most in the state's history. The fire is 50 percent contained.

The wind was relatively calm Monday, despite forecasts of gusts of up to 50 mph, fire information officer Brett Haberstick said. Temperatures, however, were in the mid-90s, and the relative humidity was extremely low at 3 to 5 percent, he said.

Other wildfires were burning in warm, arid weather from Wyoming to Arizona to Southern California, where a blaze that prompted the evacuation of at least 150 homes was 30 percent contained Monday.

Fire officials warned that the 907-acre fire in eastern San Diego County still threatens 200 houses, sheds and other buildings. The fire has destroyed at least one home.

In Colorado, another fire that started Sunday in the foothills west of Colorado Springs prompted evacuations of cabins, a Boy Scout camp and a recreation area near the Elevenmile Canyon Reservoir, which provides water to the Denver area.

That fire has burned about 1 1/2 square miles, and fire managers said it has the potential to grow much more in the dry conditions. Authorities hadn't listed a containment figure by Monday.

Meanwhile, a fire near Pagosa Springs in the southwestern part of the state grew to nearly 19 square miles and was 30 percent contained.

As firefighters try to get the upper hand on the blaze near Fort Collins, which has burned large swaths of private and U.S. Forest Service land, local authorities have dispatched roving patrols to combat looting.

On Sunday, deputies arrested Michael Stillman Maher, 30, of Denver, on charges including theft and impersonating a firefighter. The sheriff's department said Maher was driving through the fire zone with phony firefighter credentials and a stolen government license plate.

His truck was later seen near a bar in Laporte, and investigators said they found a gun and stolen property in the vehicle.

Jeff Corum, whose home burned on the first day of the northern Colorado fire, described whirling, unpredictable winds that drove the blaze.

"That's what it's been doing, back and forth," Corum said. "It's just like a washing machine, and it's just rolling up there, and that's the way the mountains are."

Corum grabbed some clothing and two weapons when he fled, but not his credit cards. He's spent a few nights in a motel, some at a Red Cross evacuation center and some in his truck.

Immigration: Ex-Rutgers student won't be deported

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—A former Rutgers University student convicted of using a webcam to spy on his gay roommate will not be deported to his native India, federal immigration authorities said Monday.

Twenty-year-old Dharun Ravi is due to be released from the Middlesex County Jail on Tuesday after serving 20 days of a 30-day jail sentence.

He was convicted this year of 15 criminal counts, including bias intimidation and invasion of privacy, for using a webcam to see his roommate kissing another man in September 2010. Days later, the roommate, Tyler Clementi, threw himself to his death off the George Washington Bridge.

The issue of deportation has hung over the case.

Ravi was born in India, lived there until he was 5 years old and remains a citizen, though he is in the United States legally.

Foreign citizens convicted of crimes here can face deportation—usually after they complete their prison or jail terms.

Last year, Ravi rejected a plea deal under which prosecutors would have sought to protect him from being deported.

Ravi could have received up to 10 years in prison. His supporters argued for leniency in part to make it less likely that he would be deported. Experts say the proceedings are usually initiated against those who are incarcerated for a year or more.

Last month, the second man in the streamed video—identified in court only by the initials M.B.—said through a lawyer that he was willing to write a letter on Ravi's behalf opposing deportation.

In a statement released Monday, U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement spokesman Ross Feinstein said Ravi would not face deportation because of his criminal record.

The webcam case is his first brush with the law.

He voluntarily reported to jail on May 31 though he could have remained free while the case is on appeal.

Prosecutors have asked an appeals court to give him a longer sentence. Ravi is arguing to have his conviction overturned. His jail time is reduced by 10 days because of a state law that allows shorter sentences for good behavior and working.

Calls: Zimmerman told wife to buy bulletproof vest

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—The former neighborhood watch volunteer who killed Trayvon Martin told his wife to buy bulletproof vests for them and for his attorney, according to jailhouse calls released Monday.

"As uncomfortable as it is, I want you wearing one," George Zimmerman told his wife. Zimmerman was wearing a bulletproof vest when he left jail after posting bond. His attorney, Mark O'Mara, has reported receiving threats.

The calls, released by prosecutors, also detail how Zimmerman instructed his wife to transfer money from bank accounts and could play a crucial role in his second bond hearing next week.

Zimmerman was released on $150,000 bond in April, several days after the calls took place. At his bond hearing, his wife, Shellie, testified that she didn't know how much money had been raised from a website created for his legal defense. She also testified that they had limited funds because she was in nursing school full time and Zimmerman wasn't working.

Prosecutors say the calls show George and Shellie Zimmerman knew that roughly $135,000 had been raised by the site. The judge in the case revoked George Zimmerman's bond and ruled the couple had deceived the court. Zimmerman has been back in jail for almost a month.

Shellie Zimmerman was arrested last week on a perjury charge and released from jail after posting bond. The third-degree felony is punishable by up to five years in prison and a $5,000 fine.

Her 28-year-old husband is charged with second-degree murder and has pleaded not guilty, claiming self-defense during the confrontation with the 17-year-old Martin in a gated community in Sanford, Fla. The case sparked protests across the country when Zimmerman wasn't arrested at first and led to nationwide debate over race and self-defense laws.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY 2012 Summer Youth Employment Training Program Qualifiers

ALL QUALIFIERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE WORK READINESS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, July 4 is an observed Holiday. ALL WIA Trainees DO NOT work on this day.

SAIPAN QUALIFIERS

1st PHASE Work Schedule*: Monday, July 2-Monday July 23, 2012

	PARTICIPANT	POSITION	PLACEMENT	WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
1	AGUILAR, Kimiko Kristie Ann C.	Office Clerk	NMHC-Administration	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
2	AGUTO, Gerald Jesse M. Jr.	Stocker	Joeten-Kagman Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
3	AGUON, Dailine Rosarita T.	Office Assistant	CPA-Lease/Compliance & HR	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
4	AGUON, Mercelia Agnes T.	Clerical	DPS-Human Resources	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
5	ALAZAR, Sharmaine Rose M.	Accounting Clerk	IT&E-Finance & Accounting Department (Susupe)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
6	ALDAN, Liyan Yushin L.	Legal Assistant	Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
7	ALDAN, Michael C.	Stocker	Joeten-Dandan Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
8	ALOMIA, Laisiis D.L Jr.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
9	AMANDES, Clarence Lee	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
10	AMANDES, Malcolm D.	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware Gualo Rai	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
11	ANDY, Myron Jordan	Office Clerk	NMHC-Fiscal Division	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
12	ANUNCIACION, Christine L.	Sales Clerk	Joeten-Susupe Department Store	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
13	ARRIOLA, San Juan Peter S.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
14	BABAUTA, Ivilynn J.	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
15	BABAUTA, Crystal Kay B.	Sales Representative	Joeten-All Star	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
16	BABAUTA, Dusery Dionne L.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
17	BABAUTA, Dwisey J.	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
18	BABAUTA, Jacob R.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Child Care Development Fund Program	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
19	BABAUTA, Joana B.	Bagger	Joeten-Hafa Adai Shopping Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
20	BABAUTA, Versalli R.	Parole Officer Aide	Board of Parole	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
21	BAUTISTA, Bradley Roy I.	Guest Service Officer-Bell Service	Hyatt Regency Saipan	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
22	BELI, Belmina	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
23	BENSON, Steven G.	Auto Mechanic Helper	Torres Refrigeration, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
24	BER ATAN, Referson	Office Clerk	NMHC-Mortgage & Credit Division	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
25	BIADO, Carizza Camille D.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Power Division Office	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
26	BLEWETT, Kaylani Matricia L.	Sales Representative	Joeten-The Athletes Foot (Susupe)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
27	BORJA, Saralynn S.	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
28	BORJA, Stanely S.	Human Resource Clerk	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
29	Cabaohas, Frank A.	Office Assistant	CPA-Administration	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
30	CABRERA, Annalyn Jovannah	Youth Congress Coordinator	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
31	CABRERA, Brandon Jon E.	Terminal Documentation Clerk	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
32	CABRERA, Jewels Malia A.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Procurement Office	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
33	CABRERA, Sherylyn E.	Clerical Trainee	Pacific Trading Company	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
34	CALAGE, Billy Joe P.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
35	CALAGE, Renee Jefferson S.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
36	CAMACHO, Brittney Jean O.	Administrative Assistant	DOF-Division of Customs Services (Seaport)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
37	CAMACHO, Ladale A.	Administrative Assistant (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
38	CASTRO, Bradley Jon	Engineering Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
39	CASTRO, Jacqueline Rose	Accounting Clerk	Pacific Trading Company	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
40	CASTRO, Michael Jordan	F&B Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
41	CELIS, Deyree Jeen C.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Gualo Rai)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
42	CHENOR, Samantha E.	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
43	CHOITER, Kayleen	Sales Clerk	Joeten-Susupe Department Store	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
44	CRUZ, Ignacia Lulu M.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
45	CUCAL, Hinky Vi D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
46	CUCAL, Young Arui D.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
47	CUBAMAI, Maria R.	Terminal Documentation Clerk	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
48	DANFORD, Esperanza P.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
49	DAO, Kishin Edyna R.	Legal Assistant	Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
50	DAY, Handy I.	Forestry Trainee	DLNR-DOA (CNMI Forestry	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
51	DELOS SANTOS, Jerry Robert M.	Stocker	Joeten-Dandan Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
52	DEMAPAN, Anna Rit A.	Clerk	IT&E-Sales & Marketing (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
53	DEMAPAN, Arnold Sherman A.	CADD Work/Construction Inspector Trainee	Pangelinan & Associates	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
54	DEMAPAN, Gus Frederick A.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
55	DEMAPAN, Klifford Bernard A.	IT Trainee	IT&E-Information Technology Department (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
56	DEPICIT, Jasmyn	Sales Merchandiser	Transpacific International Inc.-Coca Cola	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
57	DIONISIO, Julia Ann Marie	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
58	DIONISIO, Keoloni Kristine	Office Clerk	NMHC-Planner/Writer Section	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
59	ESEFOU, Albert S.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
60	ESNER, Keri Rose C.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
61	ESNER, Kerin C. Jr.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
62	ESNER, Kimiou Tamisou C.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
63	ESNER, Kit T.	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware San Vicente	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
64	EUBANKS, Travis Ikka I. R.	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware Susupe	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
65	EUBANKS, Tyler Jae	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware San Vicente	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
66	FAISAO, Jenniven Kristie C.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
67	FERNANDEZ, Merly Ann	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
68	GUMFAD, Jaunnael O.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
69	GUMFAD, Joseph Saleg V.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
70	HOSSAIN, Mohammed Ali	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware Susupe	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
71	HOSSAIN, Mohammed Omar	Butcher Trainee	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
72	IGISOMAR, Leony Jane	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
73	IGISOMAR, Shawn Kris	Stocker	Joeten-Kagman Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
74	ILO, Lilawaan Mpoco	Enforcement & Compliance Trainee	Department of Commerce-Enforcement & Compliance	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
75	ILO, Rianalyn C.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
76	JOHN, Alisi	Office Clerk	DPS-Human Resources	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
77	JONES, Janet L.	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
78	JONES, Jesslyn L.	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
79	KAIPAT, Carmenlita Lupe	Enforcement & Compliance Trainee	Department of Commerce-Enforcement & Compliance	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
80	KAIPAT, Franklin Daniel	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
81	KAIPAT, Leibegh B.	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
82	KEJI, Petronia L.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Communications Office	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
83	KENJO, Ita	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
84	LACANDAZO, Erme Rose S.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
85	LACAY, Sherlyn D.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Capitol Hill)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
86	LIZAMA, Austin John K.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
87	LIZAMA, Dorothea Carmen D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
88	LIZAMA, Dunenalyn Loraine D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
89	LIZAMA, Franklin K.	Office Clerk	DPS-Traffic Section	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
90	LIZAMA, Jeffrey John C.	Customs Trainee (CK Postal)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
91	LIZAMA, Jose C. Jr.	Environmental Trainee	DEQ-Wastewater Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
92	MAGOFNA, John Jacob S.	House Legislative Assistant	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
93	MANIANAO, Marvin H.Jr.	F&B Trainee	Hyatt Regency Saipan	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
94	MARAS, Rasslo RJ E.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
95	MARATITA, Roman John C.	Procurement Specialist	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
96	MORALES, Stephanie Natasha C.	Administrative Assistant	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
97	MOSES, Casandra	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
98	MUNA, Stevielyn Gernel I.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
99	NARTIN, Narphin M.	Warehouseman	Joeten-Susupe Distribution Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
100	NEKAIFES, Andy SP.	Produce Assistant	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
101	NORIEGH, Agatha Christine W.	Office Assistant	DPL-Planning Division	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
102	NORITA, Catrina K.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Capitol Hill)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
103	NORITA, Dennis N.	Stocker	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
104	NORITA, Junela N.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Office of the Secretary	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
105	NORITA, Rose Marie N.	Customer Service Clerk	IT&E-Customer Service Department (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
106	OLOPAI, Jiovanni Lars	IT Trainee	IT&E-Information Technology Department (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
107	OLOPAI, Veralyn Rose W.	Senate Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
108	PANGELINAN, Nathaniel Anthony	Fast Food Worker	Transpacific International Inc.-Subway/Scoops	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
109	PETER, Marony F.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
110	PETER, Mifrol F.	Clerk	IT&E-Sales & Marketing (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
111	PHILLIP, Laverne R.	Receptionist	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
112	PINEX, Kirie S.	Record Keeping Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
113	QUICHOCHO, Norman A.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
114	QUIMSON, Shiela Marie E.	Office Clerk	NMC-School of Education	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
115	RAMANGMOI , Stacy Monique A.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
116	RENGIIL, Maryjane Camillajean R.	Administrative Assistant	Eco Island Development	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
117	REYES, Asunsion S.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
118	REYES, Larissa Marie M.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
119	REYES, Nadalene Ened D.	Office Clerk	Board of Parole	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
120	REYES, Suzie I.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
121	RIOS, Estefana A.	Administrative Assistant	DOF-Division of Customs Services (Seaport)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
122	RIOS, Haley Jessophie A.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
123	RIOS, Jack Daniel A.	Warehouseman	Pacific Trading Company	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
124	RIOS, Moses Angel A. Jr.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
125	RIOS, Rismano Ambrason A.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
126	SABLAN, Clara Joice P.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Executive Director Office	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
127	SABLAN, Francine B.	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
128	SABLAN, Frankie E.	Stocker	Joeten-Susupe Market	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
129	SABLAN, Julian S.	Office Clerk	NMC-School of Education	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
130	SALAZAR, Dane R.	Dispatcher	DPS-Police Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
131	SANNICOLAS, Julie May M.	Web Content Editor	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
132	SANCHEZ, Emy Lyn T.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Office of the Secretary	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
133	SANCHEZ, Rodalene Carmen G.	Office Clerk	DPL-Real Estate Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
134	SANTOS, Angel T.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
135	SANTOS, Grace Marie	Administrative Support Assistant	IT&E-Engineering & Plant Technical Services Department	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
136	SANTOS, Jena T.	F&B Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
137	SANTOS, Louna Katy	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
138	SARALU, Adela Francis Ignacia S.N.	Clerk	IT&E-Human Resources (Susupe)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
139	SARALU, Jackylyna S.N.	Accounting Clerk	IT&E-Finance & Accounting Department (Susupe)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
140	SATUR, Jackileen L.	Office Clerk	DPL-Real Estate Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park

2nd PHASE Work Schedule: Tuesday, July 24- Monday, August 13, 2012

	PARTICIPANT	POSITION	PLACEMENT	WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
141	SATUR, Mariano Junian L.	Parole Officer Aide	Board of Parole	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
142	SHOKING, Josnen S.	Fast Food Worker	McDonald's of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
143	SIMINA, Justin	Fast Food Worker	McDonald's of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
144	SOLOMON, Ehrick C.	Dispatcher	DPS-Fire Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
145	SOLOMON, Elemen C. Jr.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
146	SUDA, Curina Mac	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
147	TAITINGFONG, Shawn Jacob	Surveyor Trainee	DPL-Planning Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
148	TAMAN, Joseph L.	Sales Representative	Joeten-Boardertine	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
149	TAMAN, Lupe Inez L.	Office Clerk	NMHC-Administration	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
150	TAMAN, Randy S. Jr.	Material Clerk	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
151	TAMMY, Este	Sales Representative	Joeten-The Athletes Foot (Garapan)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
152	TAULE, Leolosi Enege O.	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
153	TENORIO, Korey Samson P.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Capitol Hill)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
154	TERLAJE, Regina Judith B.	Administrative Assistant	Joeten-Susupe Distribution Center	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
155	TIPINGENI, Malcar Jr.	Community Worker	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
156	TORRES, Anthony Jacob P. Jr.	Library Assistant	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
157	TORRES, Julie Ann	Office Clerk	Department of Commerce-Banking Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
158	TORRES, Ruth Ann P.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
159	TUDELA, Pedro Joaquin	Forestry Trainee	DLNR-DOA(CNMI Forestry	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
160	TUMADA, April Melanie C.	Office Clerk	Board of Professional Licensing/HealthCare Professional Licensing Board	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
161	WABOL, Holyan Rose N.	House Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
162	WEILBACHER, Jasmine Brianne	Record Keeping Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
163	ABADAM, Carolynn C.	Office Clerk	Board of Professional Licensing/HealthCare Professional Licensing Board	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
164	ABADAM, Donna Jane C.	Office Clerk	Workforce Investment Agency	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
165	ADA, Keshani Beatrice	Office Assistant	CPA-Administration	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
166	ADERKERIOI, Francia Ungel Dill	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
167	ADOBO, Kerr S.	Sales Representative	Joeten-Boardertine	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
168	AGTON, Margaret Fely R.	House Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
169	AGUSTINO, Arlyana D.	Housekeeping Coordinator	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
170	ALDAN, Leilani D.G.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
171	ALDAN, Marianna Joyce B.	Office Clerk	CNMI Scholarship Office	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
172	ALEXANDER, Romen	Dispatcher	DPS-Police Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
173	ALFOREZA, Kricelle P.	Office Assistant	DPL-Planning Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
174	ALVAREZ, Kyle M.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
175	ANGEX, Sherrey L.	Sales Representative	Joeten-The Athletes Foot (Garapan)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
176	ATALIG, Brytan Tyler	Fast Food Worker	McDonald's of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
177	BABILLO, Tasha Lian M.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
178	BASTO, Alaiza Fe A.	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
179	BAUTISTA, Kimberly A.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
180	BAUTISTA, Sophia Laurine A.	Administrative Assistant	Eco Island Development	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
181	BENAVENTE, Jil S.	Trades Helper	DPW-Technical Services Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
182	BENIG, Noemee D.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
183	BONDOC, Chloe C.	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
184	BORJA, Britney Ann C.	Office Clerk	CNMI Scholarship Office	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
185	BORJA, Colleen Mildred C.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Office of the Secretary	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
186	BORJA, Elisha Maria	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
187	BORJA, Peter Gabriel DLC.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
188	BRANA, April Kate P.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
189	CABRERA, April Jean S.	Senate Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
190	CABRERA, Zanny Marie A.	Web Content Editor	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
191	CALAGE, Marck Anthony S.	Legal Assistant	Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
192	CAMACHO, Kayla R.	Accounting Clerk	Chong's Corporation	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
193	CAMACHO, Kianah R.	Record Keeping Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
194	CASTRO, Charlotte Gabrielle B.	Youth Congress Coordinator	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
195	CASTRO, E-jay G.	Community Worker	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
196	CASTRO, Ladelyn T.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
197	CASTRO, Queenlyn T.	Office Clerk	NMC-School of Education	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
198	CATILO, Kenneth S.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
199	CELESTE, Wilson Kenneth C.	Stocker Clerk	Joeten-Ace Hardware Gualo Rai	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
200	CHONG, Francisco F.	Guest Service Officer-Club Elan	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
201	CRISOSTOMO, Maggie Jane R.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Child Care Development Fund Program	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
202	CRISOSTOMO, Richard Ell R.	Forestry Trainee	DLNR-DOA (CNMI Forestry	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
203	DACUMA, Princess Diane V.	Administrative Assistant	Sorenson Media Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
204	DEFANG, Fremian S.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
205	DEFANG, Norman S.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
206	DELEON GUERRERO, Ashlynn B.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
207	DELEON GUERRERO, Bernadita Jacinta F.	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
208	DELOS SANTOS, Anthony Junior M.	Stocker	Joeten-Dandan Market	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
209	DICIMOSO, Russ Ann D.	Office Clerk	NMHC-Fiscal Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
210	DIZON, Renandra Shanice DLC	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
211	DOCA, Rita Lorraine V.	Accounting Clerk	IT&E-Finance & Accounting Department (Susupe)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
212	ENCARO, Frederick Ricky	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
213	ENISER, Terryne C.	Office Clerk	DPL-Real Estate Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
214	ESCALADA, Shawn J.	Stocker	Joeten-Susupe Market	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
215	ESPAOS, Matthew M.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Service	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
216	ESPINOA, Shanthia N.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
217	ESPINOSA, Daryl Jodge E.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
218	EVANGELISTA, Merssina Dakotia I.	Guest Service Officer-Club Elan	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
219	FAISAO, Doming T. Jr.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
220	FONTANILLA, Gregan M.	Sales Clerk	Chong's Corporation	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
221	FUKUCHI, Daelem Theresa M.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
222	GERONIMO, Ilysaa Mae D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
223	GIBSON, Dana Dora K.	House Legislative Assistant	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
224	GUAO, Lorenza C.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
225	IHELSON, Resty Davis	Produce Assistant	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
226	IBARRA, Dan Dorie D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
227	IBARRA, Ryan D.	Sales Clerk	Joeten-Susupe Department Store	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
228	IGISOMAR, Lorraine	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
229	ILO, Bettylyan Ekeis	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8

Asia

PH leader signs law on terror financing

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III signed a law Monday that makes terror financing a crime with a long prison term in a Southeast Asian nation that has been scarred by bloody attacks and continues to battle al-Qaida-linked militants.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said the "Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act" signed by Aquino is a new legal weapon against Abu Sayyaf gunmen, who have been crippled by years of U.S.-backed assaults but still pose a threat.

Financiers of terrorism were previously treated as mere accomplices, but the new law considers them as key players in terrorism. Aside from a 40-year prison term, convicted offenders can be fined up to 1 million pesos ($23,255).

The Philippines has long battled a number of al-Qaida-linked groups, including the Abu Sayyaf, which has been blamed for bombings, beheadings and kidnappings and accused of harboring foreign extremists.

Now hard-up for funds and weakened by battle setbacks, the Abu Sayyaf and their allied gunmen have turned to kidnappings and extortion for survival.

The new law empowers the government's Anti-Money Laundering Council to examine assets and bank accounts of suspected financiers of terrorists and extremist groups even without a court order.

Offenders can be punished even if the terrorist attacks they fund fail. The law applies only to financiers of extremists and organizations listed as terrorists by the Philippine government and the international community.

Military spokesman Col. Arnulfo Marcelo Burgos welcomed the new law, saying it would make it harder for the Abu Sayyaf and allied groups to acquire funds for new attacks and recruitment.

The Abu Sayyaf, which is on a U.S. list of terrorist organizations, was blamed for detonating a bomb on a ferry in Manila Bay in 2004 that killed 116 people in the worst terrorist strike in the country.

Police arrested in Kashmir for alleged rebel links

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Four Indian police officers have been arrested in Kashmir for alleged links with rebels fighting against Indian rule, the police chief of the disputed Himalayan region said Monday.

The case has rattled Indian authorities who administer the tense region, where insurgents have waged a violent campaign for decades demanding independence or a merger with neighboring Pakistan.

The alleged rebel ties were discovered last week during a routine investigation into a recent shooting attack on a former militant, police Chief Rajendra Kumar said.

Authorities have arrested two intelligence officials and two low-ranking police officers, and two more suspected officers are still at large, he said.

Kumar said the six are believed to have links to Kashmir's largest militant group, Hizbul Mujahideen. Officials are investigating whether they might have helped rebels stage attacks, procure arms, avoid arrest or move undetected through the region.

One of the suspects, a constable who has worked undercover infiltrating rebel groups in the past, was arrested briefly in 2008 for allegedly buying cellphone cards used by gunmen in deadly attacks that year in Mumbai. However, the constable, Mukhtar Ahmed, was released after authorities said he had made the purchase as part of his undercover work.

Ahmed's re-arrest follows new evidence that suggests he may have operated outside of his official mandate on behalf of the rebels, Kumar said.

This is not the first time Indian law enforcement officers have been implicated in rebel activities in Kashmir, where some 700,000 Indian troops are deployed for a population of 12.5 million.

In 2006, three Indian soldiers and two police officers were detained for alleged links with the rebel group Lashkar-e-Taiba, which New Delhi blames for the Mumbai attacks. The two police officers were removed from service, while the army has remained quiet about the status of the detained soldiers.

ASIAN BRIEFS

2 condemned in killing blamed for Myanmar violence

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—State media in Myanmar say a court has sentenced two men to death for the rape and murder of a woman whose killing sparked a wave of communal violence that left more than 50 people dead. The Myanma Ahlin daily reported Tuesday that the verdict was handed down Monday in western Rakhine state's Kyaukphyu district. The 27-year-old Buddhist woman was killed by Rohingya Muslims on May 28. On June 3, a Buddhist mob dragged 10 Rohingyas off a bus and killed them.

Nepal protesters stone prime minister's motorcade

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Hundreds of protesters demanding the resignation of Nepal's prime minister have attacked his motorcade with stones and clashed with riot police. Supporters of the opposition Nepali Congress party attempted to block Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai's motorcade on Monday as it approached Katmandu's airport. Bhattarai was leaving Nepal for a conference in Brazil. Riot police blocked the protesters, who pelted Bhattarai's motorcade with stones. Two security vehicles were damaged. The protesters later clashed with the riot police.

Pakistani police told to lose weight—or else

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pudgy Pakistani police officers have been given until the end of the month to shrink their waistlines below 38 inches (96 centimeters)—or get off the streets. Punjab police spokeswoman Nabila Ghazanfar said the province's police chief was determined to "turn the force into a fit one." She declined to comment on a local media report that said 77 percent of the police in Rawalpindi had girths bigger than 38 inches around, but she acknowledged that many are overweight.

Indian man beheads daughter in rage over lifestyle

JAIPUR, India (AP)—Police say a man upset over his daughter's lifestyle chopped her head off with a sword and then paraded it through his village before surrendering to authorities in western India. Marble miner Ogad Singh's 20-year-old daughter had been living with her parents in the Rajasthani village of Dungarji after leaving her husband two years ago. Police Superintendent Umesh Ojha says Singh was upset by his daughter having affairs with men, and became enraged when she eloped with one of them two weeks ago.

World

Egyptian military moves to retain power after vote

AP

Two supporters of presidential candidate, Mohammed Morsi ride a motorcycle flying Egyptian flags during celebrations claiming victory over rival candidate, Ahmed Shafiq, in Tahrir Square, Cairo, Egypt Monday, June 18, 2012.

CAIRO (AP)—Islamist candidate Mohammed Morsi claimed a hollow victory Monday in Egypt's presidential vote just hours after the country's military rulers stripped the office of its most important powers.

The power grab by the ruling generals delivered another major blow to hopes for a democratic transition born out of last year's uprising that ousted authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak.

The generals, who deny having effectively staged a coup and rendering the elected president a mere figurehead, will maintain authority over the crafting of laws and the drafting of a new constitution. Civilian oversight of their budget and other affairs will be strictly off-limits.

If Morsi's victory is confirmed in the official result expected on Thursday, it would be the first victory of an Islamist as head of state in the stunning wave of pro-democracy uprisings that swept the Middle East the past year. But the military's moves to retain power sharpen the possibility of confrontation and more of the turmoil that has beset Egypt since Mubarak's overthrow.

"The military may partially exit from power after a new round of tough negotiations with the Islamist and the secular opposition on safeguarding its interests," said Azzedine Layachi, a Middle East expert from St. John's University in New York. "However, and no matter what, the military will continue to play a dominant role in Egyptian politics. The question for now is whether they will continue to do so directly for the coming years or indirectly behind the façade of a civilian rule."

In Washington, Pentagon press secretary George Little said the U.S. was troubled by the timing of the military leaders' announcement and would urge them "to relinquish power to civilian-elected authorities and to respect the universal rights of the Egyptian people and the rule of law."

"This is a critical moment in Egypt, and the world is watching closely," State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland told reporters. "We are particularly concerned by decisions that appear to prolong the military's hold on power."

West avoiding action in Syria, blaming Russia

BEIRUT (AP)—The U.S. has spent months disparaging Russia for blocking strong U.N. action against Syria and standing by President Bashar Assad as his forces lay waste to rebellious cities.

But in many ways, Russia's stance is convenient for Washington and its allies which have their own reasons for avoiding direct intervention in yet another Arab nation in crisis.

Not the least of them is the impending U.S. presidential election in November. Others are the uncertain outcome of a military commitment and the war-weariness of the U.S. public.

"The fact that Russia is not budging on Syria certainly helps Washington in its efforts to justify its inaction," said Bilal Saab, a fellow and Syria expert at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

For all the tough rhetoric over the carnage in Syria, Washington and its Western allies remain deeply reluctant to engage in any kind of military action such as the NATO-led mission that helped oust Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi in Libya.

The American domestic political situation is also a factor. President Barack Obama faces a tough re-election battle, and his people are focused on their economic woes. Many are clamoring for an end to the U.S. involvement in Afghanistan after the American pullout from Iraq and would oppose yet another military adventure.

The U.S. would rather deflect blame for the bloody conflict onto its old Cold War foe.

Russia's continued support for Assad "is going to help contribute to a civil war," U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton warned last month.

Syria has become one of the bloodiest and murkiest conflicts of the Arab Spring, and world powers have been unable to stop the violence which has so far killed 14,000, according to opposition groups.

The country is a geographical and political keystone in the heart of the Middle East, bordering five countries with which it shares religious and ethnic minorities and, in Israel's case, a fragile truce. Its web of allegiances extends to Lebanon's powerful Hezbollah movement and Iran's Shiite theocracy.

Many fear a destabilized Syria could send unsettling ripples through the region or lead to a regional war pulling in Iran and Israel.

Focus

In this photo taken June 15, 2012, Yannick Grijalba, 18, from Guatemala, poses for pictures during an interview with The Associated Press in Guatemala City.

AP

Obama's deportation stay late for some immigrants

ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON and ALBERTO ARCE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Marlon Roberto Cortes was stocking shelves in the frozen food section of a suburban Boston supermarket when he was summoned to the back office.

An immigration officer was waiting for him and asked to see his ID, which he didn't have. The 20-year-old Honduran was told there was an order to deport him, and agents handcuffed and hauled him to a holding center. He was sent back to his native country in March without being able to say goodbye to his family.

Cortes missed by three months President Barack Obama's decision last week to allow hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants no older than 30 with high school degrees and no criminal history a chance to stay and work in the country. The president has said that as many as 800,000 young illegal immigrants living in the U.S. could benefit from the change.

From Guatemala to Argentina, recently deported young people who had dreamed of becoming U.S. citizens reacted to Friday's announcement with a mix of frustration and sadness, but also relief that siblings left behind might now be able to stay without fear of deportation.

"I am a person who studied and I wish I could aspire to far greater things," said Cortes. "I'm sad."

"The country in which I could have had the chance to get ahead is the United States," he added. "I did everything I had to do to get that and I don't understand why they wouldn't let me ... I feel more American than Honduran."

Yannick Grijalba, an 18-year-old Guatemalan with fluent English who was deported on Wednesday after living 11 years in Northern California, was equally frustrated.

"When I was watching the news today and heard, I just couldn't believe it," he said last week in Guatemala City. "I had to turn the TV off."

It's unclear how many deported immigrants just missed their chance like Cortes because there are no available statistics that classify them by age or education. The United States deported 396,906 people from Oct. 1, 2010 through Sept. 30, 2011. But one can spot the young and recently deported on Latin America's streets, where they sometimes fumble with their Spanish and have trouble fitting in.

To Cortes, it was like being thrown a life preserver too late and he says his future looks bleak.

On his first day back in Tegucigalpa, the young man with braces and hair gelled straight back had to wake up before 5 a.m. to work with his grandparents selling baleadas, wheat tortillas stuffed with beans and meat, outside a hospital.

He said he has been stopped a couple of times by men on the streets of Honduras, which has a gang problem and among the world's highest homicide rates. "I don't even know the words, the rules and the signals they make," he said. "I am afraid to be on the streets alone. And if someone says I am a gringo, it is very dangerous for me because they will think I have money and will assault me."

Cortes noted that he graduated from a Chelsea, Massachusetts high school and would have met all the criteria of the new U.S. policy, which says that the immigrant must have been brought to the U.S. before they turned 16, be no older than 30 and have been in the country for at least five continuous years.

Now back in Honduras, Cortes calls his mother's cellphone every week or so to talk with her and her younger sister in the U.S, and tries to keep in touch with them and others on Facebook.

"I keep up with all of my high school friends through Facebook," said Cortes. "We miss each other very much. I don't know if we are ever going to see each other again."

In Grijalba's case, his family flew from Guatemala to New York City with tourist visas in 2000.

The family later moved to Fairfield, California where Grijalba became an honor-roll student and competed on the wrestling team at a local high school. Halfway through his junior year, he got into a fist fight with a boy from school over a girl. It led to an assault charge in juvenile court.

Maibe Casalins, a Miami-based immigration attorney, said that someone like Grijalba could still qualify because juvenile records are not considered a criminal conviction under immigration laws. U.S. immigration courts give wide leeway to prosecutors and agents in determining whether an individual has the right to stay.

Grijalba kept on studying at the juvenile detention center and was hoping to graduate so he could go to a community college and earn a degree as a mechanic. Like some of the other deported young Latin Americans, Grijalba believes that the chance for a good education is among the most important things he has lost.

AP

Marlon Roberto Cortes poses for a portrait in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Sunday, June 18, 2012.

"I would then get a job, save and go on to a university and study architecture," Grijalba said of his earlier plans.

Instead, immigration officers deported him weeks before he finished his classes.

Jobless and with no money, Grijalba is now back in Guatemala City, a place he barely recognizes, living downtown with an aunt, two uncles and a cousin.

"Everything is just really different here," he said. "My uncle took me around the city and everything here looks rundown with cracks on the walls and the dogs are so skinny."

"There are also guards with shotguns everywhere," he added. "Yesterday I had to go get Guatemalan documents, there were even guys with shotguns there. You just don't see that in a DMV in California," said Grijalba, referring to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Grijalba was noticeably awkward in what is now a foreign country for him from the moment he stepped off the plane at a Guatemalan Air Force base. As the other deportees scrambled off the aircraft, Grijalba had the measured saunter of a high school kid in his baggy pants and Air Jordans as pre-recorded marimba music blasted from airport speakers. Foreign Ministry officials then gave him and the other deportees their first meal back home: a bread roll and a paste of refried black beans, along with a juice box and a speech about how they will always be welcome in their native Guatemala.

Grijalba said he can't pursue a college degree in the country of his birth because he needs to work. His best bet, he said, is to apply for a job at a call center because English is his main language.

In Argentina, 22-year-old Nahuel Tedesco wishes Obama's decision would have come two years ago when he was studying in Florida.

His family came to the United States after Argentina defaulted on its debt and its currency devaluated in late 2001 and early 2002. The economic crisis caused a spike in violent crime and Tedesco's father lost his job with postal service, so the family decided it was time to leave.

They settled in Miami, where his father and his brother worked in construction and restaurants, and his mother earned money as a nanny. Nahuel was 12.

"It was a great time. Those were the best years of my life," Tedesco said.

His other family members were all deported back to Argentina in 2009. Enrolled at Miami Dade College, Tedesco chose to stay and continue with his classes.

But months later, Tedesco received a notice from immigration officials ordering him to appear in court for deportation proceedings. He was only able to extend his stay a couple of weeks longer to complete his degree in computer software engineering before leaving the country in May 2010.

"I would have liked for things to have turned out differently, for the benefits to have been implemented earlier," he said.

Back in Buenos Aires, Tedesco said it was difficult to adapt to a place where he hadn't lived since he was 12. He worked at a call center where he was eventually laid off after it closed. "It took me several months to realize what was going on," he said.

Like Tedesco and other recently deported immigrants who spent much of their childhood in the United States, Stephany Ramirez also sought work at a call center because of her English skills.

Although she had lived in San Diego since the sixth grade, Ramirez voluntarily returned to Mexico last year and settled in Tijuana to earn some money. She said she was tired of living with the fear of deportation and didn't qualify for financial aid to pay for tuition at an American college.

Still, she'd hoped to return to San Diego later to rejoin her family and continue her education. "It's extremely hard to be here by myself," Ramirez said.

If Ramirez had stayed north of the border she could have benefited from the new rules, but because she wasn't in the United States when Obama made the announcement on Friday she no longer qualifies.

"It would have been a lot easier to continue my studies and be with my family," she said.

A disappointed Ramirez however said she was happy that her younger sister, 18-year-old Montserrat Ramirez, stayed in San Diego and may benefit from the new policy.

"I am happy there is some hope for her," she said.

In Honduras, Cortes said he was confused when he heard the news last week about the new U.S. policy. He initially thought he could go back to the U.S. and apply, but was then told that was not the case.

His sadness was tempered, however, by relief that his younger sister and others could benefit from the policy.

"They don't have to go through the ordeal I have," he said. "It could have saved me."

Campus Life

New venture connects US teachers online

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO
AP EDUCATION WRITER

MIAMI (AP)—Discussing education reform at Stanford University last year, the leader of one of the nation's largest teacher unions decided to turn the tables and ask a question of the audience.

"You're all technology people," said Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers. "Could you actually help us?"

Weingarten said she received one call—from Louise Rogers, chief executive of TSL Education, a United Kingdom-based company that operates an online network that lets teachers around the globe access, review and discuss lesson plans and other learning materials.

The result of that call, to be unveiled Tuesday, is Share My Lesson, an online portal that teachers will be able to access free of charge. It is expected to contain more than 100,000 user-generated materials.

"We've been trying to find a way to have teachers be able to access information quickly, actively and share with each other," Weingarten said. "It felt to me almost too good to be true, that some private entity had created a platform for teachers to be able to share."

Share My Lesson is expected to be the largest online resource for teachers in the U.S. and comes at a time when cuts to education budgets have led many districts to slash professional development. AFT and TSL have pledged $10 million to develop and maintain the site, which should be ready for teachers by August.

"We must support the incredibly complex work teachers do at every opportunity, including by sharing and promoting best practices through online resources and communities of practice," Education Secretary Arne Duncan said.

He said the program would benefit teachers everywhere.

Teacher preparation and development in the United States vary dramatically. While some schools help beginning and veteran teachers hone and perfect their craft, many others complain of being left to their own devices to learn the best ways to communicate and teach students with different skill levels in one class.

AP
In this March 2, 2011, file photo, Randi Weingarten, left, president of the national American Federation of Teachers, waits to speak to a group of teachers and union laborers on the steps of Providence, R.I., City Hall.

"For a lot of people, I think teaching is a very isolating experience," said Karen Brennan, a research assistant at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "You don't have as many opportunities as you'd like to connect with the teacher in the classroom next to you, or in the school or district. And that's where I think network technologies have enormous potential."

TSL Education launched its network, TES Connect, in 2008, and Rogers said it has helped create a global dialogue among teachers about best lessons and learning practices. It has nearly 2 million members from 197 countries.

"There are 79 to 80 million teachers in the world," she said. "They are now starting to engage with each other."

In recent years U.S. education leaders have paid increased attention to examining teaching preparation and practices in countries where students are outperforming those in the U.S. On the most recent Program for International Student Assessment, the U.S. ranked 14th in reading, 17th in science and 25th in math out of 34 countries.

"In places that out-compete us, places like Singapore, Finland, Canada, what you hear is that their districts spend a lot more time providing them the resources and the tools to do their job," Weingarten said. "Teachers are far more equipped when they walk into the classroom."

There are 2.5 million lesson downloads from TES Connect a week. Most of those are matched with curriculum in the U.K., so in order to build a site for U.S. teachers, they needed to review and adapt the materials. AFT and TSL Education also wanted to make sure there were lesson plans that would help teachers implement the Common Core, a new set of academic standards that have been adopted by 46 states and the District of Columbia.

About 200 teachers from across the country helped review the lessons and prepare them for the site. Karen Gant, a science teacher in Miami, said she went to two marathon sessions in Baltimore in which teachers received spreadsheets with 100 lessons they had to review. In all, she says she reviewed more than 500 lessons—looking at language, software and content—some of which she plans to use with her own students.

"We were surprised by the amount of information we learned," Gant said.

One of the exercises Gant does with her elementary students each year is the classic egg drop. Students are asked to create something that will stop an egg from breaking when dropped at different heights. This year she plans to use add a PowerPoint presentation from the Share My Lesson site that will frame the exercise in the context of a mission to another galaxy.

"It will take my kids deeper, and they'll get involved in it a little more," she said.

PSS begins 2012 summer online courses

This is to remind all students who enrolled for the Public School System's Summer Online Courses that instructions have been sent to their individuals emails.

PSS is requesting students to follow the instructions on their email to confirm and register. If they have any questions or did not receive their email confirmation, they are instructed to email jeaniffer.cubangbang@cnmipss.org with specific information as to their name, school, and courses.

Students can also make an appointment at the Summer Distance Education Resource Testing Center near the MHS campus and speak to counselor or eTeacher.

On Jan. 31, 2012 PSS launched their distance education program with eight high school online courses for students to meet graduation requirements. A total of 118 Spring 2012 students from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan participated in a semester-long study online through the online LMS (Learning Management System) called CourseSites by Blackboard. Cubangbang, the IT Program Manager in charge of the Distance Ed Program recruited and trained more eTeachers these months and now there are more courses being offered online.

This summer, beginning June 18, approximately 600 students from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan enrolled from a choice 20 online courses to receive credits toward graduation requirements. Elementary students will also experience their first online enrichment course. Junior high students will be able to choose from four online credit or elective courses.

The Fall 2012 1st Edition catalog was just released last week. Fall classes start Sept. 4, 2012. Students can choose from over 30 online courses including rigorous Advanced Placement (AP) courses for which students can receive college credit in addition to high school credit upon successful examination through a CollegeBoard exam. Students can register at www.goo.gl/VJJwc; deadline is Aug. 17.

This is a great opportunity for students who'd like to graduate early or on-time, want to work part-time, or do early admission into NMC.

Cubangbang is also looking for community partners and business establishments who'd like to offer discounts or internet/wi-fi services to students taking online courses. If you are a parent or student who would like more information about PSS online courses or an organization or business who'd like to send a discount or service proposal, please email Jeaniffer Cubangbang, IT Program Manager at PSS Office for Instructional Services at jeaniffer.cubangbang@cnmipss.org. ***(PR)***

$1.7M TRIO grant for Palau Community College

After nearly three decades of making available much needed after-school academic assistance to under-represented high school students in Palau, the TRIO Upward Bound Program at Palau Community College has once again been awarded to continue its services.

The U.S. Department of Education award in the amount of $1,781,750 will ensure that the long-running TRIO Upward Bound legacy at PCC of helping under-represented college-bound students in the Republic of Palau will be guaranteed for another five-year cycle.

Initiated back in 1983, the Upward Bound program's mission remains unchanged and it is to provide fundamental support and opportunities for participants to succeed in their pre-college performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. The 110 college-bound high school students who are enrolled in the program are required to take classes in core courses such as Mathematics, English Composition, Literature, Laboratory Science, and Foreign Language. Additional services such as academic tutoring, advising on college preparation and readiness, assistance in completing college admission and financial aid applications, and preparation for college entrance examination are provided. Furthermore, the services of UB program, under this new grant, have been extended comprehensively to include such services as counseling services designed to improve financial and economic literacy for students and parents, guidance on the assistance in secondary school reentry, and alternative education programs for secondary school dropouts.

For more information about this grant and other TRIO Upward Bound Program services at Palau Community College, contact Program Director Kuye Belelai at 488-2962 or email belelai@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Life&Style

AP

Former heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson, left, and director Spiken Lee announce "Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth", a one man show on Broadway starring Mike Tyson, on Monday June 18, 2012 in New York.

Ex-boxer Mike Tyson to take a bite out of Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Mike Tyson wants his next knockout to be on Broadway.

The former boxer announced Monday that he will team up with director Spike Lee to bring his one-man show, "Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth," to the Longacre Theatre for six nights only, July 31 to Aug. 5.

The show, a raw confessional on the highs and lows of the life of the retired heavyweight and tabloid target, will mark both Tyson's and Lee's debut on Broadway. It made its debut in April for a weeklong run at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"I'm very vulnerable and I'm just telling you who I am and where I'm from and how this happened," Tyson said at a news conference at the Longacre, wearing white pants, a white shirt and a gray jacket.

Tyson, like Lee a Brooklyn native, became the youngest-ever heavyweight champion in 1986, when he won his title as a 20-year-old. His life since then has been marred by accusations of domestic violence, rape and drug use.

"It takes courage to get in the ring," said Lee, who urges theatergoers to have an open mind when it comes to the work. "But it takes courage to get on the stage."

Tyson, 46, said he was inspired to do a one-man show after watching Chazz Palminteri tell stories about growing up in his show "A Bronx Tale." The boxer said: "I'm really just excited about this genre here."

Tyson said that the show would be "raw" and "filthy" and that he would show his vulnerable side. It will include tales about his stormy marriage to actress Robin Givens, his time in prison, his relationship with his trainer and surrogate father, Cus D'Amato, and the time he spent in a psychiatric clinic as a result of his addiction to cocaine. One story sure to return is one in which he spotted Givens returning to her home in his car with Brad Pitt.

Lee is the director behind such films as "Do the Right Thing," "Malcolm X" and "Inside Man," and much of his films make bold statements about race relations in the United States. He said he saw a DVD recording of Tyson's show in Las Vegas and immediately signed up. The pair will start work on it after the July Fourth holiday.

"It's a great story and he tells it masterfully," said Lee, who calls it a tale of redemption that only needs some tweaking from the Vegas edition. "He's lifted himself off the canvas."

Tyson began boxing in a facility for juvenile delinquents in upstate New York at the age of 12. Eight years later, he became the youngest heavyweight champion ever when he knocked out Trevor Berbick.

But in 1990, he was defeated by James "Buster" Douglas in one of the biggest upsets in boxing history, and soon after he was convicted of raping a beauty pageant contestant in Indianapolis. Tyson, who still denies he raped the woman, served three years in prison.

As his career continued, so did his bizarre behavior. He bit off a piece of Evander Holyfield's ear during a boxing match and once threatened to eat the children of heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis.

Over the past few years, there have been charges of cocaine possession, driving under the influence, scuffles with photographers, parts in films like "The Hangover" franchise and tragedy, including the accidental death of his 4-year-old daughter, Exodus. He said he's been clean and happily remarried for the past few years.

His show follows a line of recent one-man shows to hit Broadway, including ones by William Shatner, Hugh Jackman and Kathy Griffin. They're cheaper than a full-blown production and more flexible, both godsends to theater owners with empty venues. Tickets for Tyson's show are priced $75 to $199, with VIP tickets going for $300.

Bieber's hot show melts down Apollo power

AP

Justin Bieber performs during the 2012 Much Music Video Awards in Toronto on Sunday, June 17, 2012.

NEW YORK (AP)—Justin Bieber had an unplugged performance at the Apollo Theater on Monday, but it wasn't intentional—a problem caused a power outage during the singing sensation's big concert.

The singer was nearing the end of a private show in front of a packed house when the power for most of the stage instruments suddenly went out, said his manager, Scooter Braun.

"Then we hear the fire alarm," Braun said by phone Monday evening. "Literally, the boy blew up the Apollo—he heated up the Apollo."

But Bieber still managed to finish his show, with the help of fans singing along with him.

"What it turned into was an Apollo moment, like one of those impromptu things," said Nina Flowers, the Apollo's rep.

"It was one of the most special nights I have ever been a part of," said Braun.

The power outage, which only affected the stage instruments and some lighting, occurred toward the end of the show. Braun said they were told the problem was supposed to be only a few minutes, but it stretched to more than 40 minutes.

At first, Bieber took the outage in stride.

"He was joking, he said it was all the hot girls in here," said Flowers.

He then got on the drums, which were working, for a solo, and had the crowd serenade Braun for his birthday.

But then Bieber got upset at the disruption of the show, which was being taped as part of an NBC special to air later this week.

"He started to get frustrated, because it had been 40 minutes," said Braun.

However, instead of getting mad, Bieber decided to put his energy into performing for his fans, who stayed in the audience during the delay.

"He walks out, he literally quiets the crowd, and he says, `I'm sorry the power is out. . (But) you guys have always had my back. I'm going to sing `Boyfriend' and you're going to sing it back to me.'"

He then launched into his hit song from his new album "Believe" as the crowd of mainly teen girls sang along as he danced, Braun said.

Flowers couldn't say what caused the power outage, but she praised the 18-year-old entertainer for finishing the show.

"He could have stopped; he could have not gone on and said, I did everything . but he came back on," said Flowers.

She added that Bieber showed reverence throughout the night for the famed theater, a hallowed hall where the likes of James Brown, Stevie Wonder and Bieber's idol, Michael Jackson, have performed.

"It was really like a special moment," she added.

Bieber's concert was part of a series of promotional appearances to push his album "Believe," out Tuesday. It has garnered strong reviews. Braun said he's hopeful the album will prove that Bieber has more to him than just hype.

"Every step of the way he's been doubted," Braun said. ""He is a great artist and entertainer and tonight he showed that."

Rodney King autopsy concluded; results weeks away

This April 13, 2012 file photo shows Rodney King posing for a portrait in Los Angeles.

AP

RIALTO, Calif. (AP)—Investigators conducted an autopsy Monday on Rodney King's body, but it was expected to take several weeks to determine what killed him, officials said.

Coroner's officials will await results from toxicology tests that could take up to six weeks to gather before determining how King died. He was pulled from the deep end of his pool early Sunday by police who were called to his home by his fiancee.

King, 47, became famous after he was severely beaten by Los Angeles police in 1991. The beating was captured on videotape and broadcast worldwide, as were photos of King's bloodied and bruised face. The more than 50 baton blows and kicks inflicted by officers left King with 11 skull fractures, a broken eye socket and facial nerve damage.

The trial of four officers charged with felony assault in the beating ended after a jury with no black members acquitted three of the officers on state charges; a mistrial was declared for a fourth.

The verdict sparked one of the most costly and deadly race riots in the nation's history.

Rialto police are investigating King's death as an apparent drowning and said they have found no signs of foul play. King's fiancee spoke with police for several hours Sunday and is considered a witness in the case, Rialto Police Officer David Shepherd said Monday.

A police officer remained stationed outside King's one-story home throughout Monday, with several news crews also remaining in the neighborhood. Cars slowed to look at the house, and some stopped for passengers to snap photos. But no memorial to King had been created at the residence.

Toxicology results will show whether King, who struggled with addiction throughout his life, had any alcohol or drugs in his system.

Police have said there were no signs of alcohol or drug paraphernalia near the pool. Officers were seen taking a marijuana plant out of the house Sunday, but Shepherd said he could not confirm what items were taken from the home.

Lawrence Spagnola, who helped King write his memoir "The Riot Within: From Rebellion to Redemption," said King was proud of the book and hoped it signaled a new chapter in his life where he wouldn't just be remembered as a beating victim.

"Rodney was tired of being the Rodney who was always asked about the beating and if he'd forgiven the cops," Spagnola said. King was happiest when he was outdoors and the two men talked about meeting for a fishing trip, Spagnola said.

"There was a lot of good in him," he said.

He said King seemed like a different person when he spoke about the darker aspects of his life. "When Rodney was talking about spousal abuse or DUIs or drinking, there was a look in his face almost as if he was talking about another person," Spagnola said.

King had plenty to look forward to, including setting a wedding date and the upcoming birth of another grandchild, he said.

Spagnola said King didn't expect he would be remembered, but hoped that his infamous words spoken as the riots still flared, "Can we all get along?" would long outlive him.

Even 20 years after the beating, King still endured migraines, joint pain and other ailments, Spagnola said. Alcohol provided some relief, he said.

"I honestly think he's more at peace now than he ever was in his life," Spagnola said.

Suu Kyi walks on with 'star-struck' Bono

DUBLIN (AP)—Aung San Suu Kyi and Bono joined forces Monday as the Myanmar democracy activist's European tour moved from the home of the Nobel Peace Prize to the land of U2.

The pair spent more than an hour answering questions at an Oslo conference of peace mediators at the end of Suu Kyi's four-day visit to Norway. Then they jetted together to the Irish capital, Dublin, for an evening concert in her honor.

Irish Foreign Minister Eamon Gilmore and a trio of children, two of them Burmese nationals, offered Suu Kyi flowers as she arrived at Dublin Airport. After meeting Irish President Michael D. Higgins, she arrived at a riverside theater to thunderous cheers and applause, with Bono and Nobel laureate poet Seamus Heaney walking alongside her down the red carpet.

Inside, Amnesty International organized a three-hour show of songs, poems and speeches in her honor featuring top Irish stars, and set against a backdrop of a wall of opened birdcages symbolizing her freedom from house arrest in 2010.

The Riverdance troupe got proceedings off to a foot-stomping start. Folk guitarist Donal Lunny led the audience in a soft musical chant of Aung San Suu Kyi's name lasting several minutes. Irish actress Saoirse Ronan read a poem, followed by English actress Vanessa Redgrave reading one of Heaney's, "The Republic of Conscience."

Dublin folk rocker Damien Rice sang his hit "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You" to a spare cello accompaniment.

Redgrave and Bono then presented Suu Kyi with another of her long-postponed awards, Amnesty's Ambassador of Conscience. Bono had announced the award at a Dublin U2 concert in 2009 during a worldwide concert tour that highlighted demands for her freedom.

"Everybody's here to sing for you tonight, but it's your song that everybody wants to hear," Bono said as he invited Suu Kyi on to the stage to a two-minute standing ovation.

"This has come as a surprise to me, and a very moving one," said Suu Kyi, who got laughs by observing that the British used to consider the Burmese "the Irish of the east"—because they never gave the British any peace, both liked a drink and were very superstitious.

Bono, who also wrote the 2000 hit "Walk On" in praise of Suu Kyi's long exile from her family, had never met her before. He admitted, during his first news conference alongside Suu Kyi in Oslo, that he found her a wee bit intimidating.

"I'm star-struck ... but I'm managing to get over it," said the 52-year-old Bono, who donned his trademark yellow-tinted wraparound glasses and high-heeled boots.

Suu Kyi, in turn, said Bono had hit the right note with "Walk On," which was written from the point of view of her husband Michael Aris. Myanmar's military rulers refused to let him see his wife from 1995 to his death from cancer in 1999.

AP

Irish singer and activist Bono and Myanmar's opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, left, pose for the media after attending a conference of the Oslo Forum at the Losby Gods resort, about 13 kilometers (8 miles) east of Oslo, Monday, June 18, 2012.

"I like that song, because it's very close to how I feel, that it's up to you to carry on," said Suu Kyi, who turns 67 on Tuesday. "It's good if you have supporters, it's good if you have people who are sympathetic and understanding. But in the end, it's your own two legs that have to carry you on."

Following the Dublin concert at an outdoor rally, Suu Kyi is to sign the roll of honor proclaiming her a Freewoman of the City of Dublin, an honorific title bestowed in her absence in 1999.

Amnesty officials also plan to give her a birthday cake and lead the crowd in a chorus of "Harry Birthday."

Bono said Suu Kyi was exceptionally philosophical and spiritual for a politician. And he expressed admiration over how she had stuck to a position of nonviolence throughout her 15 years in detention.

"It's really her nonviolent position that I find so impressive because perhaps I find it hard to fathom," he said, adding: "I think she will be remembered for that kind of spiritual insight really, as much as the sort of nitty-gritty of her politics, because she's a tough customer, too."

Suu Kyi spent much of her final hours in Oslo focused on that nitty-gritty: the challenge of coaxing Myanmar's military-controlled government toward democracy without alienating militants from warring ethnic groups who demand immediate change.

Her party, the National League for Democracy, won elections in 1990 only to see the result annulled. It boycotted the next elections in 2010, and today has just entered Myanmar's legislature as a small opposition force.

Ireland's foreign minister, Gilmore, said he hoped "that the recent positive developments in Burma, including Ms. Suu Kyi's election, herald the real beginning of a new era of peace, democracy and human rights."

But Suu Kyi noted that any changes to the country's laws of government would require more than 75 percent support in the legislature—and army members represent a blocking 25 percent of votes.

"We will need at least one army representative to vote for amendments. So we have to work with the army. ... We don't want to be in conflict with them, we want to achieve a consensus," Suu Kyi said in response to a question from The Associated Press.

Earlier, she told the audience of international conflict mediators that building unity among Myanmar's many warring ethnic groups meant she must remain open to talking with those still committed to violence.

Suu Kyi said she wouldn't "disinherit or disown" militant groups based along Myanmar's borders in Thailand and Bangladesh "because we share the same goals" of creating a proper democracy that respects minority rights in Myanmar. Nor, she said, could she promise them that such goals could be achieved without violent rebellion—but they had both a moral and practical obligation to try.

She said her National League for Democracy could "not let go of our conviction that change could be brought about through peaceful means, and in the long run that would be better.

"The wounds that are opened up by violent conflict take a long time to heal," she said. "And while the peaceful way might take longer, in the end there are fewer wounds to be healed."

'Brave' is beautiful but plays it too safe

MOVIE REVIEW

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC

Pixar is long overdue for a feature with a strong female character at its center. Now that she's arrived, it's clear that she deserves better.

"Brave" is beautiful to look at, as you would expect given the technical and artistic standard the animation behemoth has set. Set in the wilds of Scotland, the company's 13th feature is full of lush, green forests and dramatic, rolling hills, all of which appears even more idyllic bathed in a delicate, mystical sunlight.

Our heroine, the feisty and free-spirited Princess Merida (voiced by Kelly Macdonald), has a finely detailed mane of long, red curls that look so bouncy and soft, they'll make you want to roll around in them, then maybe take a little nap. And the story begins promisingly enough with our heroine—an avid archer—leaping onto her valiant steed and taking a thunderous ride through the countryside, expertly hitting her targets without missing a beat.

She's obviously a character with a mind of her own, one who has no apprehension about breaking the rules—which is why it's such a shame that the film itself feels so old-fashioned and safe. The script, credited to co-directors Mark Andrews and Brenda Chapman as well as Steve Purcell and Irene Mecchi, revisits several familiar Disney character types and themes: a princess in a long-ago kingdom who pays an ill-fated visit to a witch, a spell that changes everything and needs to be broken, and the misunderstandings and danger that ensue.

AP

This film image released by Disney/Pixar shows the character Merida, voiced by Kelly Macdonald, following a Wisp in a scene from "Brave."

After beginning in thrilling fashion, "Brave" turns rather silly and slapsticky rather quickly, as if it were aimed mainly at the little kids in the audience rather than the whole family, for whom most Pixar movies are so satisfying and quite often moving. (Admit it: You sobbed uncontrollably at the beginning of "Up" and the end of "Toy Story 3." We all did.) This time, the usual depth of story and well-developed characters simply aren't there. It's a pleasant diversion but, comparatively, a disappointment.

But "Brave" does boast a strong voice cast, including Billy Connolly and Emma Thompson as Merida's parents, the king and queen. Queen Elinor in particular is concerned with making sure her teenage daughter grows up to be a proper young lady, that she behaves the way a princess should and doesn't go gallivanting about on her own causing mischief; it's bad enough that the couple's young triplet sons are constant troublemakers.

And so she's insistent that Merida buckle down and prepare for marriage, even though it's a huge leap the girl isn't ready to make and despite the fact that her three potential suitors from the other prominent clans are all doofuses. The fact that she shows these boys up in an archery competition humiliates and angers her mother even further.

Sounds good so far. But then "Brave" becomes a well-worn cautionary tale about being careful of what you wish for, as a trip to see a toothless, whiskered old witch in a hidden cottage (voiced by Julie Walters) changes much more than Merida bargained for. We won't reveal the transformation here, but suffice it to say that it's something more complicated than true love's kiss can undo.

The movie itself, however, never changes back to its original form. If Merida herself had been in charge, she probably would have wanted to shake things up a little more.

"Brave," a Disney Pixar release, is rated PG for some scary action and rude humor. Running time: 93 minutes. ✪✪

Vandalism of Picasso painting caught on video

HOUSTON (AP)—Police have video recordings to help them search for a man who spray-painted Pablo Picasso's "Woman in a Red Armchair" at a Houston art museum.

Officials say the vandalism happened Wednesday afternoon at the Menil Collection, where the 1929 painting is one of nine Picassos. Menil spokesman Vance Muse tells the Houston Chronicle (http://bit.ly/KIxpuX) that museum security officers detected the vandalism almost immediately, when the paint was barely dry. Chief conservator Brad Epley began repair work immediately, and Muse says the painting has "an excellent prognosis."

The vandal fled and hasn't been arrested. However, police have security video—along with a cellphone video taken by a witness and posted on YouTube.

McCartney turns 70, shows no sign of slowing down

LONDON (AP)—Paul McCartney can still rock at 70. What more could a former Beatle want?

He celebrated his birthday in private Monday, perhaps resting up between gigantic gigs this summer. But he shows no sign of slowing down as his music is passed on to generations too young to have seen him in Wings, much less the Beatles.

Once a pot-smoking counterculture rebel, "Sir Paul" is very much part of the British establishment now, closing Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee concert earlier this month with a mix of favorites that included a raucous "All My Loving," one of the Beatles' first smash hits.

He's also preparing for a featured role as the final act at the July 27 opening ceremony of the London Olympics—just another global audience of a billion or more for one of the most popular performers in pop history.

Even McCartney may be a bit nervous for that one, but he won't be short of material: Consider a back catalog that includes "Yesterday," "Eleanor Rigby," "Penny Lane" and a few dozen other classics, including perennial crowd pleasers "Let It Be" and "Hey Jude."

It's been a strong year for McCartney, who in October married his third wife, dark-haired American heiress Nancy Shevell, closing the book on his failed union and messy divorce from second wife Heather Mills. His first wife, Linda, died of breast cancer in 1998.

AP

In this Monday, June 4, 2012 file photo, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, 2nd from left, is joined on stage by performers Sir Tom Jones, Annie Lennox, Sir Paul McCartney and Sir Elton John at the conclusion of the Queen's Jubilee Concert in front of Buckingham Palace, London.

McCartney has appeared relaxed and almost jovial in recent months as he eases into his role as one of rock's eminent elder statesmen, a position he shares with Bob Dylan (71) and Mick Jagger (68).

And while there are plenty of other musicians of his generation still playing, McCartney manages to keep his act squarely in the mainstream, rather than becoming just another oldies show. He still puts out new music and attracts new fans. His latest album, "Kisses on the Bottom," was released in February.

McCartney has admitted dyeing his hair (which sometimes seems to have an odd burgundy tint), but his musical ability has not diminished with age.

He can still captivate a large arena with a simple acoustic performance of "Blackbird" and can shift gears at the drop of a hat for a mean, Vegas-style, pyrotechnic-aided rendition of "Live and Let Die," a James Bond theme song that has become a favorite part of his repertoire.

John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, tweeted birthday wishes to McCartney on Monday. And Paul Weller made a one-day-only digital release of the Beatles song "Birthday" as a tribute, with proceeds going to charity.

In the run-up to his birthday, McCartney, a longtime vegetarian, urged the public to cut back on meat consumption to help cut greenhouse gas emissions and ease the global warming crisis.

Shia LaBeouf in the buff for Sigur Ros video

NEW YORK (AP)—If Sigur Ros' (SEE'-uhr rohs's) new video were a movie, it might merit an NC-17 rating.

For the band's clip of "Fjogur Piano" released Monday, "Transformers" star Shia LaBeouf (SHY'-uh luh-BUHF') appears naked.

Alma Har'el (HAH-rel) directed the video. It is part of a series being created for the band's latest album "Valtari." The video also features female nudity, dancing, an octopus, lollipops and trippy images.

Band bassist Georg Holm said the director and LaBeouf collaborated on the idea for it. Holm described it as "absolutely amazing."

Videos don't come with ratings. But the Sigur Ros video does have a warning for its content before it begins.

In this May 19, 2012, file photo, actor Shia LaBeouf poses during a photo call for Lawless at the 65th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France.

AP

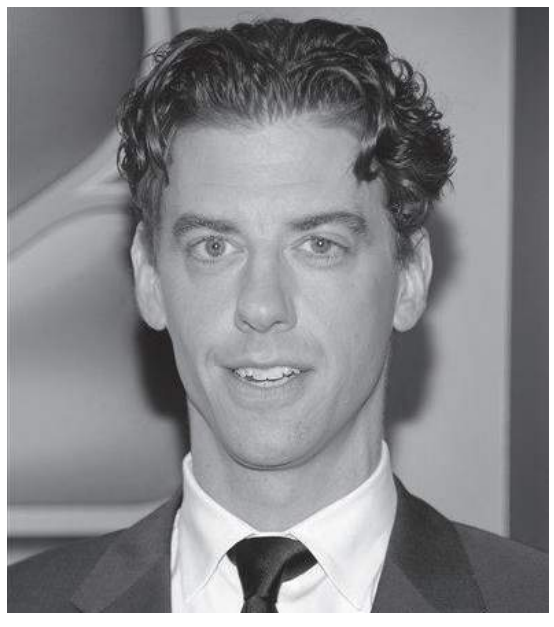
Christian Borle sets a date for leaving 'Peter'

NEW YORK (AP)—The time is ticking on catching Christian Borle in his Tony Award-winning pirate ways.

The actor will be leaving "Peter and the Starcatcher" on June 30 to begin work on the new season of NBC's show "Smash." He won the best featured actor in a play Tony last week.

Producers said Monday that Matt Saldivar will take over Borle's part of Black Stash, the precursor of Captain Hook in the inventive play that is a prequel to Peter Pan.

Saldivar, who has a role in Oliver Stone's new film "Savages," was on Broadway this season in "A Steetcar Names Desire." He's also been in Broadway's "Grease" and "The Wedding Singer."



AP

In this Monday, May 14, 2012 file photo, actor Christian Borle arrives for the NBC network upfront presentation at Radio City Music Hall, in New York.

Woot! Arsenio Hall returning to late-night TV

NEW YORK (AP)—Arsenio Hall is returning to TV's late-night scene, where he flourished with a talk show two decades ago.

CBS Television Distribution says it is developing a syndicated nightly talk show with the 57-year-old actor and comedian. The company said Monday that the show is set to premiere in fall 2013.

Hall is best known for hosting the Emmy Award-winning "Arsenio Hall Show," which ran from 1989 to 1994. That show's place in pop-culture history was clinched in 1992 when then-presidential candidate Bill Clinton appeared and played "Heartbreak Hotel" on the saxophone.

Hall was featured in the 1988 Eddie Murphy comedy "Coming to America" and was a regular on the CBS series "Martial Law" in the late 1990s.

Recently, he won the latest edition of NBC's "Celebrity Apprentice."

Happily remarried gay man wants to contact ex-wife

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I married "Linda" 22 years ago. Three years later, the marriage was over. After our divorce, I came out as gay. I met a wonderful man in 1996, and we were married in Iowa in 2009.

Over the years, I have wondered how Linda was getting along. I'd like to get back in touch with her. At one time we lived only a few miles from her. I drove by her home, but lost my nerve when I saw her father standing outside. Family members discouraged me from attempting to contact her after our split. I heard a few weeks ago that Linda has remarried, although I'm not sure how long ago.

Obviously, I have no desire to rekindle a romance. I'm happily married and assume she is, too. I would like to talk with her, but I don't know if it would be a mistake. I have considered contacting her via a third party. What do you think?

LINDA'S EX IN COUNCIL BLUFFS

DEAR EX: Before reaching out you need to ask yourself what you would gain by making contact, and equally important, what Linda would gain. If she blamed herself for the failure of the marriage, contact with you might be reassuring. If you realized your true sexual orientation only after the divorce, then telling her might relieve any guilt you have about it. But only you—not I—can make this decision.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am writing to protest something that has made shopping increasingly frustrating. I'm referring to rude people who cut in ahead of customers who have been standing in line when the clerk calls out, "Next, please."

I place the responsibility solely on store management to ensure that lines move smoothly and fairly. Stores that have such arrangements are more likely to get my business. Management must empower clerks to insist on fairness in this regard. I have seen too many weak salespeople accept whoever rushes forward first.

I'm sure that many other readers have experienced the same frustration I have. If you print this, I promise I will copy it and send it to the store management where I've had these experiences. Abby, this would be a great service to shoppers and would make shopping much more pleasant for everyone.

AVERAGE SHOPPER, OAKLAND, CALIF.

DEAR AVERAGE SHOPPER: Unfortunately, most cashiers are usually so preoccupied with ringing up or scanning and bagging the purchases that they can't concern themselves with the occasional line-jumper. Therefore, it's up to YOU to assert yourself by saying firmly, "Excuse me, but I was next in line" when someone steps in front of you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband is undergoing a yearlong cancer treatment. Recently, his brother told him he had two friends who have died of the same cancer that he has. My husband, who is already depressed from the medication he's on, became even more depressed.

One day, we ran into another friend of ours, who shared in great detail her nephew's long and traumatic battle with cancer. When she left we felt shattered.

Abby, please remind people to be sensitive to those who are dealing with an illness and to refrain from sharing horror stories. We need hope and encouragement.

DISGUSTED IN PHOENIX

DEAR DISGUSTED: I'm glad to help you spread your commonsense message. All it takes is a moment to THINK before you speak.

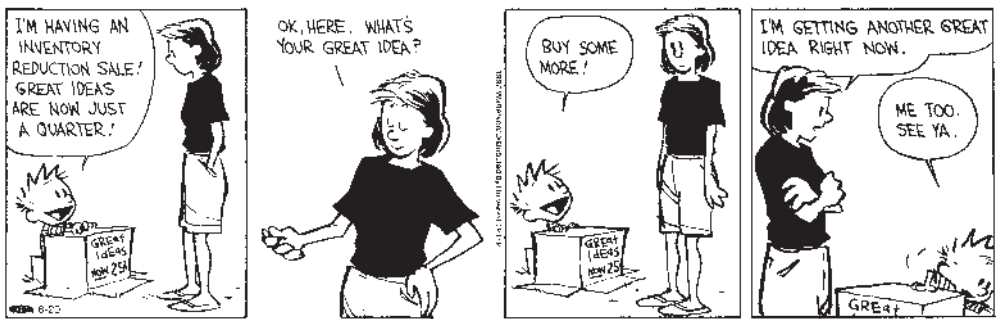
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

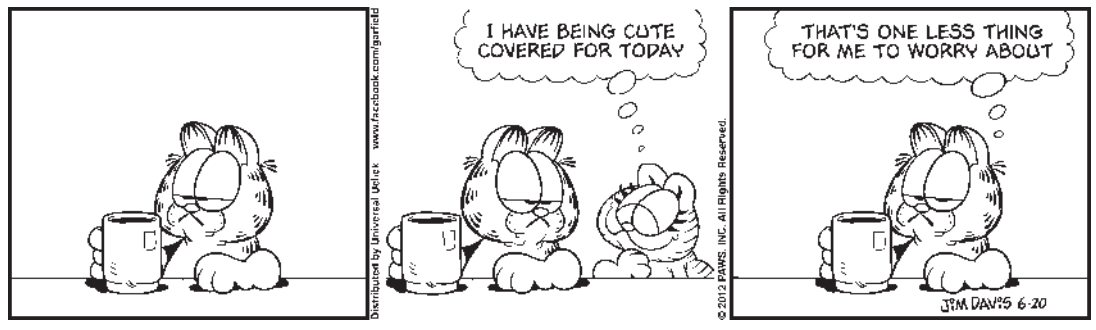
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I'M HAVING AN INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE! GREAT IDEAS ARE NOW JUST A QUARTER!
OK, HERE. WHAT'S YOUR GREAT IDEA?
BUY SOME MORE!
I'M GETTING ANOTHER GREAT IDEA RIGHT NOW.
ME TOO. SEE YA.

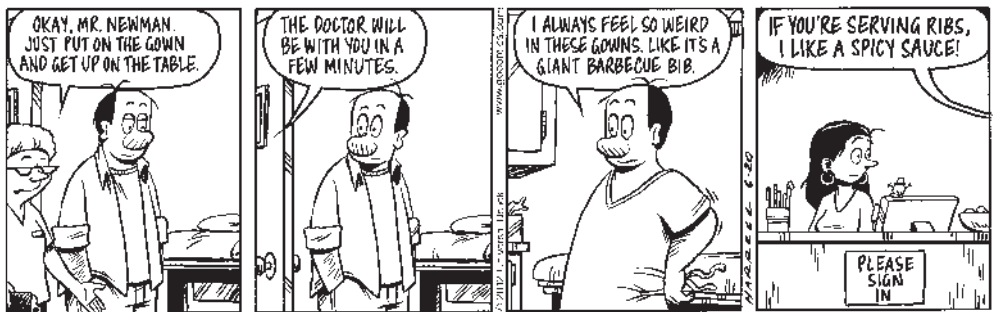
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



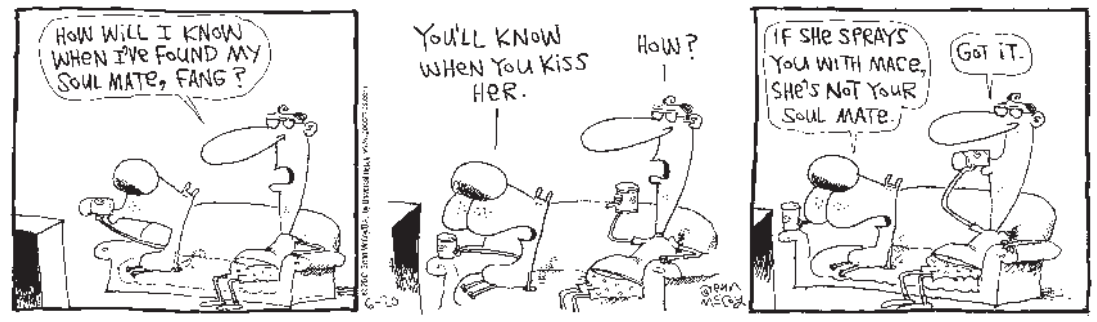
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY, MR. NEWMAN. JUST PUT ON THE GOWN AND GET UP ON THE TABLE.
THE DOCTOR WILL BE WITH YOU IN A FEW MINUTES.
I ALWAYS FEEL SO WEIRD IN THESE GOWNS. LIKE IT'S A GIANT BARBECUE BIB.
IF YOU'RE SERVING RIBS, I LIKE A SPICY SAUCE!
PLEASE SIGN IN

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN I'VE FOUND MY SOUL MATE, FANG?
YOU'LL KNOW WHEN YOU KISS HER.
HOW?
IF SHE SPRAYS YOU WITH MACE, SHE'S NOT YOUR SOUL MATE.
GOT IT.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Birthright barterer
5 Shade provider
8 Agree
12 Money
13 "The Raven" writer
14 Quite some time
15 Desire for success
17 Break suddenly
18 Actors' lines
19 Patterned cotton fabric
21 Corn spike
22 Skirt feature
23 Klutzy sort
26 Light touch
28 Insinuating
31 Old Italian bread
33 Kitten's comment
35 Quite some time
36 Intoxicated
38 Pitching stat
40 Siesta
41 Mid-month date
43 Conclusion
45 Electricity problem
47 Begins
51 Not "fer"
52 Document with many signatures, maybe
54 Coin aperture
55 Ailing
56 Beige
57 Actress Daly
58 Hearty brew
59 Melody

DOWN
1 "Zounds!"
2 Big rig
3 Goya's "Duchess of —"
4 Functional
5 Pithy piece of wit
6 Privy
7 Repairs
8 Flower used to flavor tea
9 Car starter
10 Throb
11 Catch sight of
16 Frog's cousin
20 They (Fr.)
23 Antiquated
24 Football fill
25 Realization
27 Spelling contest
29 "CSI" evidence
30 Kreskin's skill
32 Slowish in music
34 Emulate Gorgeous George
37 Small barrel
39 Con
42 Bygone photo hue
44 Goes out with
45 Brewery kiln
46 Unsightly
48 Puerto —
49 Ripped
50 Tightly fitting
53 Right angle

Solution time: 21 mins.

P	A	L	M	■	G	A	S	■	S	W	A	T
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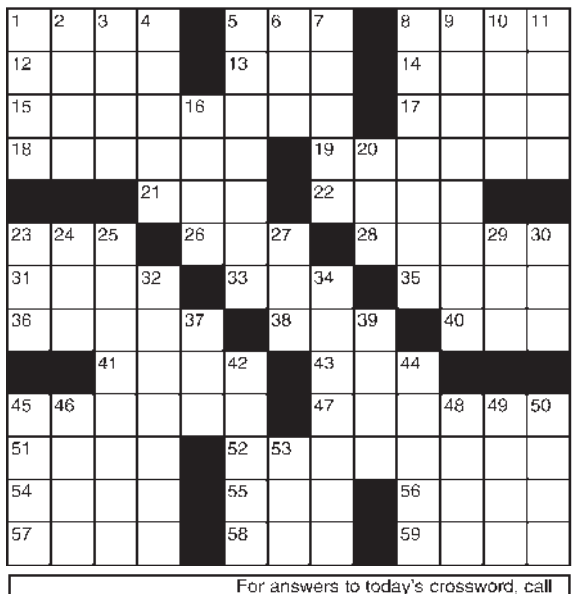
■	■	■	A	G	E	■	W	O	O	■	■	■
J	A	N	U	S	■	B	O	R	R	O	W	S
A	L	O	T	■	A	U	K	■	I	D	E	A
W	A	S	H	I	N	G	■	S	T	E	E	D
■	■	■	O	L	D	■	D	I	Y	■	■	■
C	L	E	R	K	■	G	I	L	■	K	I	D
L	O	K	I	■	M	A	J	O	R	I	T	Y
A	B	E	T	■	A	G	O	■	O	W	E	N
N	O	S	Y	■	P	A	N	■	M	I	M	E

Yesterday's answer 6-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18– only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nicole Kidman, 45; John Goodman, 60; Lionel Richie, 63; Anne Murray, 67.

Happy Birthday: Speak up if you want things to fall in your favor. Take the initiative and refuse to give in to anyone trying to bully you into something. Let intuition and common sense guide you and help you get ahead. Trust in your ability to get things done. Excessive behavior must be avoided. Your numbers are 5, 12, 16, 22, 30, 45, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Someone is likely to pressure you to alter your living arrangements or bring in someone to help with your plans. Don't limit what you can do by withholding the way you feel. You are due for a change of scenery. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Taking on a new interest or fraternizing with your peers will help you gain confidence and position you for advancement. Explore your skills and how you can utilize them to help you earn more money. Push for what you want. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't share information that has the potential to backfire, make you look bad or put you in an unfavorable position. Not everyone will be honest about what's being offered or what's expected of you. Follow your intuition and your creativity. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Emotions will be hard to hide, but if you channel your energy into something unusual or creative, you will be able to avoid criticism or questioning. Refrain from making impulsive moves for all the wrong reasons. Think before you act. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Keep a close eye on your finances. A creative approach to your investments will help you stretch your money. Getting involved in an event or activity will lead to interaction with someone who has something worthwhile to contribute or teach you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Be careful whom you trust. Not everyone will keep a secret or help you get ahead. Consider what you have to offer and what you are being offered in return. You may be best to follow your own path and work alone. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Expand your mind and put your experience to good use. Socializing without overindulging will allow you to connect with someone who can help you make changes to your personal and professional life. Love and romance are looking good. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Run your ideas past someone you trust or whom you feel has the experience to offer you suggestions or solutions that will ensure success. You need a place to work that you feel is conducive to your creative growth. Prosperity is within reach. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Greater employment opportunities are apparent. Enhance your resume, talk to employment agencies or consider ways to run your own small business for added income. Love is in the stars. Don't hesitate to make the first move. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You will have to balance your business and personal life carefully. Taking care of responsibilities will show everyone that you are capable of handling whatever comes your way. Listen attentively. Act on what you hear and what you know will work. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Trust in your own ability. Don't wait for others to make the first move. Show your capabilities and let your intentions be known. Larger quarters or more people visiting or living with you will be economically beneficial. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Discuss your plans for the future. Not everyone will agree with your choices, but you will quickly find out who you can count on and who you cannot. Persistence will pay off, and networking will lead to secret information. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have compassion, awareness and drive. You are intuitively impulsive.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	9	1	2	6	8			
		4			7	1	9	
		5			9			3
	1					5		6
6							3	1
8							2	
	3					7		
		2			3			
			1	5				

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	8	3	5	1	4	7	6	2
6	4	5	3	2	7	8	1	9
7	2	1	8	6	9	4	3	5
8	3	7	1	9	6	2	5	4
5	9	4	2	3	8	1	7	6
1	6	2	4	7	5	3	9	8
3	5	6	7	8	2	9	4	1
4	1	8	9	5	3	6	2	7
2	7	9	6	4	1	5	8	3

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/19

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

VANILLA MILKSHAKES Solution: 9 letters

W	C	(J)	D	E	G	W	O	H	S	K	T	S	S	F
H	H	U	(U)	E	G	O	C	C	N	R	N	R	K	L
I	E	I	S	(N)	P	A	N	I	U	A	I	I	N	A
S	R	C	D	U	(E)	P	R	G	C	S	M	C	U	V
K	R	E	S	P	M	D	I	E	G	D	T	E	H	O
E	I	S	E	U	E	M	P	H	V	E	A	A	C	R
Y	E	T	K	R	K	T	E	S	W	E	E	T	R	S
V	S	R	A	Y	A	F	C	R	U	M	B	L	E	D
A	O	A	H	S	C	O	O	R	A	L	I	P	X	S
E	D	W	S	A	O	S	O	P	E	Q	P	U	T	M
H	A	A	N	P	U	R	L	N	U	A	C	M	R	O
E	L	D	S	G	A	E	D	E	R	I	M	P	A	O
G	Y	P	A	N	L	E	U	F	N	I	I	K	C	T
C	U	R	G	I	R	R	B	O	W	L	L	I	T	H
C	O	E	Y	T	S	A	T	H	I	C	K	N	U	S

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Beverage, Blender, Bowl, Cake, Candy, Cherries, Chunks, Cool, Cream, Crumbled, Cups, Custard, Dates, Drink, Eggnog, Extract, Flavors, Frappes, Glass, Heavy, Juices, June, Liqueur, Maple, Milk, Mint, Orange, Peach, Pecans, Pumpkin, Rice, Rich, Scoops, Shakes, Show, Smooth, Soda, Soft, Straw, Sugar, Summer, Sweet, Syrup, Tasty, Thick, Tonic, Whipped, Whiskey

Yesterday's Answer: Hot Stuff

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Duplex Apt Capitol Hill

2 br, 1 bth, Fully Furnished
w/ AC, Linens, Pots, Pans, etc.,
very private: 322-2424

WHATZIT Solution: First and foremost

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner: Lydia Valera Parks

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LYDIA VALERA PARKS, Petitioner, vs.	) CIVIL ACTION) FCD-DI NO.) 12-0087)
STEPHEN FRANCIS PARKS, Respondent.	) SUMMONS)

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT, STEPHEN FRANCIS PARKS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the **PETITION FOR DIVORCE**, a copy of which is given to you herewith. You have Twenty (20) Days after service of this Summons upon you to file an answer with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewee, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307. Your answer should be in writing. It may be prepared and signed for you by your Attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. You are to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to **Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950**, as soon as practicable after filing your answer to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

SO ORDERED on this 17th day of February, 2012.

/s/Clerk of Court

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments For Rent

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JOON CORPORATION is looking for:

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Qualifications: High school graduate. A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience. Willing to work late hours.

Applications may be submitted to Joon Corp. dba King's Club at Garapan, Saipan or email cross_road_44@hotmail.com, Tel. No. 233-0353 or 483-5382
All applications must be accompanied by a current resume.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

DIVING INSTRUCTOR $5.05-$6.00/hour

Flexible Days / Flexible Time
Teaches diving mostly tourist from China, Korea & Japan. Must be able to speak their language to facilitate communications. Preferably with knowledge in writing Mandarin & Korean Language.

If interested send resume and copy of police clearance to
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PMB 521 CALLER BOX 10003,
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel #: 235-6222

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

CORPORATE DIRECTOR
(UNGRADED)

Opening Date: June 18, 2012 **Closing Date:** July 6, 2012
Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950
Salary: $70,000 per annum – Commensurate with education and experience.

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up during working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and **submit a cover letter together with the NMHC Employment Application Form AND required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.**

NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original cover letter, application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 6, 2012, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than Friday, July 6, 2012, to the Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to jskaipat@nmhcgov.net NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950 · T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
DEPUTY CLERK 1
Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court, CNMI Judicial Branch
SAIPAN

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Superior Court is seeking Deputy Clerk 1, Office of the Clerk of Court on the islands of SAIPAN.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The employee performs work in accordance with established policies, practices, and court procedures. The following are required duties: receives, reviews, and records documents filed for hearings; provides data entry of pleadings onto the court's case management system; provides daily updates of pleadings and other caseload information for assigned judge through the court's automated processes, including but not limited to the document imaging and online filing system; inspects physical and electronic documents submitted to court, including looking for accuracy, proper form, and conformance with court order or court rules; assesses fines, receives and accounts for monies, issues receipts, prepares deposit slips and provides disbursements per court order or requests from customer service window; prepares and maintains physical and electronic file folders for court cases, including tracking of all pleadings associated with individual cases files; serves as a courtroom clerk when court hearings are in session, including but not limited to swearing in of witnesses, logging of all admitted exhibits, tracking all phases of a hearing on an index sheet for the recording counter, operating the electronic recording equipment, and providing continuous monitoring of the recording equipment to ensure the integrity of the record; and, performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: A high school degree or equivalent plus a minimum of three (3) years related work experience. There is a strong preference for those with work experience in the legal field and those with a Bachelor's Degree. Candidates must possess a valid CNMI driver's license, current police and traffic clearances and be able to demonstrate eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: These are ungraded positions appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Starting salary will be between $20,485 and $24,950 per annum, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Application forms may be obtained at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, resumes, proof of high school graduation, along with copies of police clearance and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI may be submitted at: the Judiciary Administrative Office at the House of Justice in Susupe, Saipan, the Superior Court offices on Rota and Tinian or addressed to Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP, 96950. This job announcement will remain open until filled. For additional information about the position call (670) 236-9716. This job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950 · T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY MARSHAL

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Chief Marshal in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms;
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Candidate must provide proof of valid CNMI driver's license, current police and traffic clearances, and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be $16,652 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, resumes, proof of high school graduation, along with copies of police clearance and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI should be submitted at: the Judiciary Administrative Office at the House of Justice in Susupe, Saipan, the Superior Court offices on Rota and Tinian or addressed to the Judiciary Administrative Office, P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP, 96950. This job announcement will remain open until filled. For additional information about the position call (670) 236-9716. This job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Clemens acquitted of all charges, boosts Hall bid

AP

Former Major League Baseball pitcher Roger Clemens smiles as he speaks to members of the media outside federal court in Washington, Monday, June 18, 2012. Clemens was acquitted on all charges by a jury that decided that he didn't lie to Congress when he denied using performance -enhancing drugs.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Roger Clemens was acquitted Monday on all charges that he obstructed and lied to Congress in denying he used performance-enhancing drugs to extend his long career as one of the greatest and most-decorated pitchers in baseball history.

Fierce on the pitching mound in his playing days, Clemens was quietly emotional after the verdict was announced. "I'm very thankful," he said, choking up as he spoke. "It's been a hard five years," said the pitcher, who was retried after an earlier prosecution ended in a mistrial.

This case was lengthy, but the deliberations were relatively brief. Jurors returned their verdict after less than 10 hours over several days. The outcome ended a 10-week trial that capped the government's investigation of the pitcher known as "The Rocket" for the fastball that he retained into his 40s. He won seven Cy Young Awards, emblematic of the league's best pitcher each year in a 24-year career with the Red Sox, Yankees, Blue Jays and Astros.

The verdict was the latest blow to the government's legal pursuit of athletes accused of illicit drug use.

A seven-year investigation into home run king Barry Bonds yielded a guilty verdict on only one count of obstruction of justice in a San Francisco court last year, with the jury deadlocked on whether Bonds lied to a grand jury when he denied knowingly taking performance-enhancing drugs.

A two-year, multi-continent investigation of cyclist Lance Armstrong was recently closed with no charges brought, though the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency filed formal accusations last week that could strip the seven-time Tour de France winner of his victories in that storied race. Armstrong denies any doping.

In a non-drug-related case, the Clemens outcome also comes on the heels of the Department of Justice's failure to gain a conviction in the high-profile corruption trial of former presidential candidate John Edwards

Late Monday, as the jury foreman read the acquittal on the final count, Clemens bit his lower lip and rubbed a tear from his eye.

Clemens, family members and his lawyers took turns exchanging hugs. At one point, Clemens and his four sons gathered in the middle of the courtroom, arms interlocked like football players in a huddle, and sobbing could be heard. Debbie Clemens dabbed her husband's eyes with a tissue.

Accused of cheating to achieve and extend his success - and then facing felony charges that he lied about it - Clemens declared outside the courthouse, "I put a lot of hard work into that career."

His chief lawyer, Rusty Hardin, walked up to a bank of microphones and exclaimed: "Wow!"

Hardin said Clemens had to hustle to get to court in time to hear the verdict. "All of us had told Roger there wouldn't be a verdict for two, three or four days, so he was actually working out with his sons almost at the Washington Monument when he got the call that there was a verdict."

Prosecutors declined to comment as they left the courthouse. But the U.S. Attorney's Office said in a written statement, "The jury has spoken in this matter, and we thank them for their service. We respect the judicial process and the jury's verdict."

Clemens, 49, was charged with two counts of perjury, three counts of making false statements and one count of obstructing Congress when he testified at a deposition and at a nationally televised hearing in February 2008. The charges centered on his repeated denials that he used steroids and human growth hormone during a 24-year career produced 354 victories.

The first attempt to try Clemens last year ended in a mistrial when prosecutors played a snippet of video evidence that had previously been ruled inadmissible.

Still, Monday's verdict is unlikely to settle the matter in sports circles as to whether Clemens cheated in the latter stages of a remarkable career that extended into a period in which performance-enhancing drug use in baseball was thought to be prevalent. Clemens himself told Congress at the 2008 hearing that "no matter what we discuss here today, I'm never going to have my name restored."

A crucial barometer comes this fall, when Clemens' name appears on the Hall of Fame ballot for the first time. His statistics would normally make him a shoo-in for baseball's greatest honor, but voters have been reluctant to induct premier players - such as Mark McGwire and Rafael Palmeiro - whose careers were tainted by allegations of drug use.

Clemens capped his career with age-defying performances. He went 18-4 and won his seventh Cy Young Award at the age of 41, and the next year posted a career-best 1.87 ERA. His 4,672 strikeouts ranked third in baseball history.

The government's case relied heavily on the testimony of Clemens' longtime strength coach, Brian McNamee, who testified he injected Clemens with steroids in 1998, 2000 and 2001 and with HGH in 2000. McNamee produced a needle and other materials he said were from a steroids injection of Clemens in 2001, items that McNamee said he stored in and around a Miller Lite beer can inside a FedEx box for some six years.

Dickey Ks 13 in latest 1-hitter, Mets beat O's

NEW YORK (AP) — R.A. Dickey became the first major league pitcher in 24 years to throw consecutive one-hitters and Ike Davis hit a grand slam to lead the New York Mets past the Baltimore Orioles 5-0 on Monday night.

Coming off a one-hit gem at Tampa Bay last Wednesday, the knuckleballer struck out a career-high 13 and allowed only Wilson Betemit's clean single in the fifth inning.

The previous pitcher to throw consecutive one-hitters was Dave Stieb for Toronto in September 1988, according to STATS LLC. The Mets said the last to do it in the National League was Jim Tobin with the Boston Braves in 1944, according to research by the Elias Sports Bureau.

The 37-year-old Dickey (11-1) walked two and became the first 11-game winner in the majors.

Yankees 6, Braves 2

In New York, CC Sabathia struck out 10, Derek Jeter drove in three runs and the Yankees won their 10th straight game, beating the Braves.

Mark Teixeira and Robinson Cano hit solo home runs as the Yankees matched their longest winning streak since May 2005.

The team with the AL's best record kept rampaging in interleague play—all 10 of these triumphs have come against NL teams with winning records, including a sweep at Turner Field last week.

Giants 5, Angels 3

In Anaheim, Matt Cain followed up his perfect game by persevering through five difficult innings for another victory, steering San Francisco past Los Angeles.

Cain (9-2) was rewarded for his resilience with a win in his first start since throwing the 22nd perfect game in major league history.

Ryan Theriot had three hits and drove in two runs for the Giants.

Indians 10, Reds 9

In Cleveland, Lonnie Chisenhall and Casey Kotchman had three RBIs apiece as Cleveland ended Cincinnati's six-game winning streak.

Chisenhall and Kotchman hit two-run homers, and both drove in runs in the sixth inning off Sam LeCure (2-2) as Cleveland snapped a 7-7 tie.

Shin-Soo Choo homered for the Indians.

Joey Votto and Jay Bruce homered for the Reds, who swept a three-game series from the Indians last week.

Brewers 7, Blue Jays 6

In Milwaukee, Aramis Ramirez's liner down the left-field line was ruled a home run after umpires reversed a foul ball call using video replay in the seventh inning that broke a tie and lifted the Brewers to a victory over the Blue Jays.

Ramirez hit a 1-2 pitch off rookie Robert Coello (0-1) that hit the outside corner of a yellow pad below the foul pole. Third base umpire Paul Nauert ruled it a foul ball. He agreed to check video replay after discussing the play with Milwaukee manager Ron Roenicke and third base coach Ed Sedar while watching a fan dramatically pound the pad in question.

Astros 9, Royals 7

In Houston, Brian Bixler drove in a career-high three runs on three hits, including his first career homer, and Justin Maxwell and Brian Bogusevic also homered as the Astros held off the Royals.

J.A. Happ (5-7) yielded four hits and two runs in 6-plus innings to break a four-game losing streak. It was his first start since allowing 11 hits and eight runs — both career highs — in Houston's 10-0 loss to San Francisco in which Matt Cain threw a perfect game.

Maxwell hit a two-run homer after Bogusevic's solo shot in Houston's five-run eighth inning.

Jonathan Sanchez (1-3) allowed six hits and four runs in six innings in his second start since a month-long stint on the disabled list with tendinitis in his left biceps.

Rangers 2, Padres 1

In San Diego, David Murphy hit a two-run single in the first inning, and that was enough for Texas to edge San Diego.

Rangers starter Matt Harrison (9-3) won his fifth straight decision and tied Yankees pair C.C. Sabathia and Ivan Nova for the AL lead in victories. He allowed one run in six innings.

Joe Nathan pitched the ninth for his 14th save in 15 chances.

Rangers slugger Josh Hamilton didn't start but played left field in the ninth inning.

Diamondbacks 7, Mariners 1

In Phoenix, Aaron Hill became the fifth Arizona player to hit for the cycle, lifting the Diamondbacks to a win over Seattle.

Hill hit a single in the first inning off Hector Noesi (2-8), added a triple in the third and a double in the fifth then finished it off in style, hitting a solo homer in the seventh for the majors' second cycle this season. New York Mets outfielder Scott Hairston had the other.

Cubs 12, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Bryan LaHair and Alfonso Soriano homered to lead the Chicago Cubs to a victory over the White Sox in the opener of the crosstown, interleague series.

The Cubs had season highs of five home runs, 15 hits and 12 runs.

Starlin Castro and Luis Valbuena homered and had three hits apiece for the Cubs and Geovany Soto added a solo shot in his first game back from the 15-day disabled list.

Heat back in familiar ground, ready for Game 4

MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James arrived for practice Monday wearing lime-green sneakers, a highly fluorescent shade.

It was the fashion statement du jour for the league's three-time MVP, much like the eyeglass frames he's been sporting after games throughout this postseason. But those sneakers probably would have remained tucked away in the drawer beneath his locker during last year's NBA Finals, since very little about James' game would be considered glowing or luminous during those two weeks.

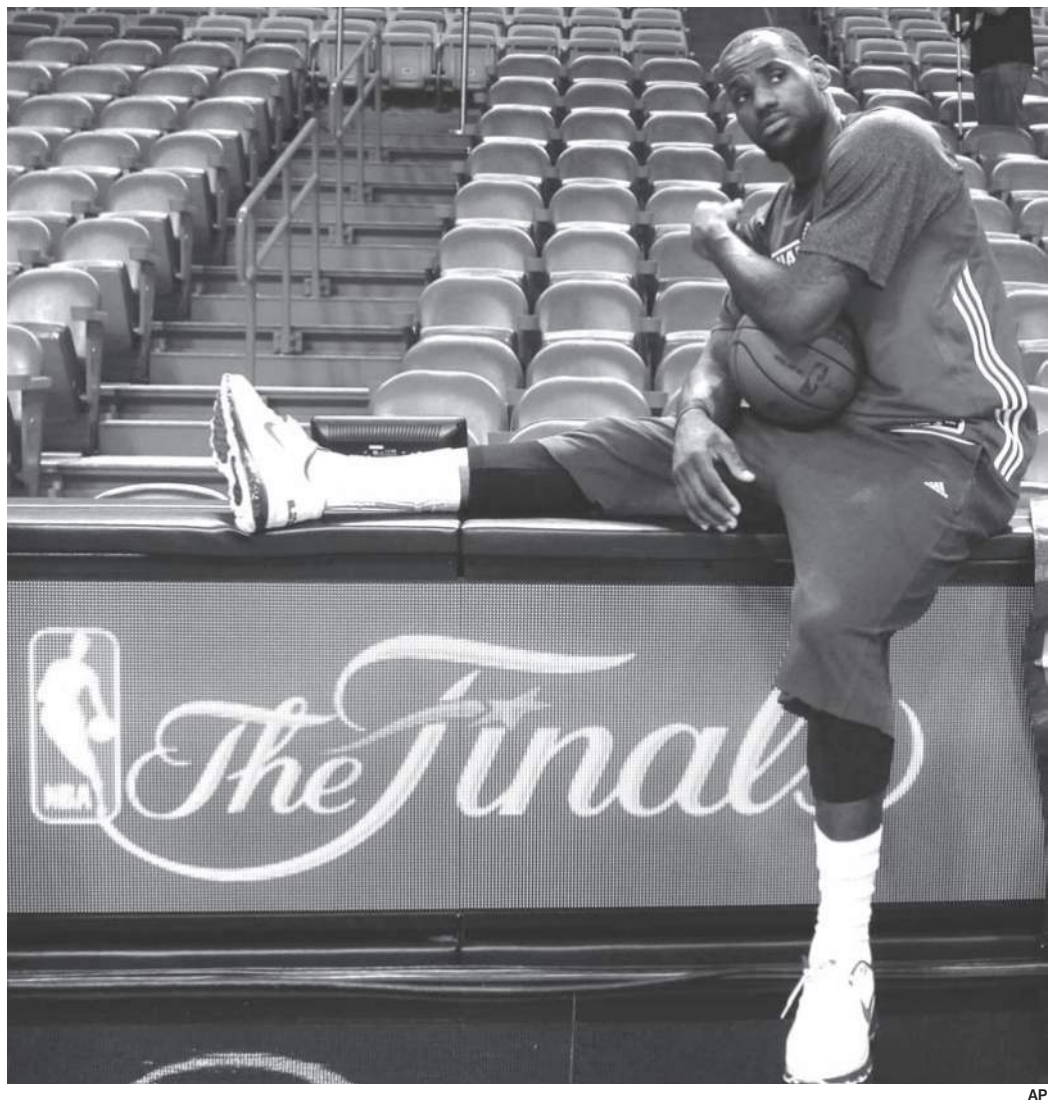
Different year, different story.

For the second straight season, the Miami Heat hold a 2-1 lead in the NBA Finals. There's a glaring difference this time around - that being James is playing at the top of his game. And he'll try to help the Heat move within one win of a championship on Tuesday night, when Miami plays host to the Oklahoma City Thunder in Game 4 of this title series.

"We're a totally different team than we was last year when we was up 2-1," James said Monday. "We're a totally different team. We understand what it takes to win, we've used that motivation, and we will continue to use that motivation. But last year is last year, and we're not going into a Game 4 on someone else's floor. We're going into a Game 4 on our floor with a lot of experience in this type of situation. We'll be ready. We love the challenge."

Miami lost Game 4 in Dallas last year, the start of a three-game slide that ended with the Mavericks hoisting the title trophy.

So the Thunder know a 2-1 deficit in a series is hardly insurmountable, even though the home-court roles are reversed this time around. And if Oklahoma City needed more proof, all the Thunder need do is remember the Western Conference finals when they lost the first two games to San Antonio, becoming the 19th and 20th entries on the Spurs' incredible winning streak. The Spurs didn't win another game the rest of the way.



AP

Miami Heat small forward LeBron James takes a break on the scorer's table during practice, Monday, June 18, 2012, in Miami. The Heat play the Oklahoma City Thunder in Game 4 of the NBA basketball finals on Tuesday.

"We were down 2-0 against San Antonio and everybody thought the series was over," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. "But I know our guys, they're very competitive, they're very resilient. They've always showed that type of effort every game, and we've always been a great bounce-back team. I thought last night was a great bounce-back last night. It's unfortunate we didn't make a couple plays, and uncharacteristic, also."

Uncharacteristic. That would also be a fine word to describe how James played in the finals last season.

He freely acknowledges that he "didn't make enough plays" against the Mavericks a year ago, and the numbers—17.8 points, 7.2 rebounds and 6.8 assists per game—back that up, as do his well-chronicled fourth quarter struggles in that series. So far in this year's finals, James is averaging 30.3 points, 10.3 rebounds and 4 assists, and in the final minutes of Miami's two wins in the series he's done his part to slam the door on the Thunder.

"He's been aggressive. He's an aggressive player," Thunder guard James Harden said. "He's been aggressive all year, all postseason. He's tall, strong, and physical. He's a tough matchup. It takes five guys to really lock down on their offense because they're a very offensive team especially with LeBron and (Dwyane) Wade."

James is shooting 46 percent in the series, not even close to the 57 percent clip Kevin Durant is putting up for Oklahoma City. But here's maybe one piece of proof to support that aggression notion Harden was speaking of - James is 25 for 29 from the foul line in the three games, while Durant is just 14 for 19 so far in the series.

James has done much of his work near the rim in these finals. But while it wasn't his most memorable shot, perhaps the biggest one he hit all night in Miami's Game 3 victory was a 3-pointer late in the third quarter, one of just five shots that the Heat made from outside the paint in that game. That shot put Miami up entering the fourth, and seemed to extend the Thunder defense just enough to allow James, Wade and Chris Bosh to create more in the lane late.

"The biggest evolution of great players is they always stay in constant state of being uncomfortable," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "They don't stay satisfied. And LeBron every summer has added something to his game. I've seen it when I've followed him from afar, and now that I've gotten to know him he's added two, three, four different elements now to his game, the well-documented one of the post-up game, which we needed. But he continues to try to improve and stay uncomfortable. I think that's a sign of greatness."

Another sign of greatness? Rings.

James' first is just two wins away, again. And yes, the memories of what went wrong in 2011 still drive Miami now.

"Experience don't guarantee you anything," Wade said. "It just lets you know I've been here before. That doesn't mean it's going to be successful for you. So for us we've got to continue ... to make the game that we're in, the moment that we're in the biggest moment and the biggest game and not look back and not look forward too much."

AP sources: Bobcats hire St. John's asst. Dunlap

NORTH CAROLINA (AP)—The Charlotte Bobcats have hired St. John's assistant Mike Dunlap to be their new head coach, two people familiar with the decision said.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity Monday because an official announcement was still being planned for the next two days.

The Charlotte Observer first reported the news.

The choice comes as a bit of a surprise because Dunlap was not one of the team's three finalists and rejoined the picture late.

He was originally one of the 10 candidates to interview for the job, but the team trimmed the list to former Utah coach Jerry Sloan, Indiana assistant coach Brian Shaw and Los Angeles Lakers assistant coach Quin Snyder last week.

At some point Dunlap reentered the picture and was offered and accepted the job Monday night.

A text message sent to Dunlap was not immediately returned.

Dunlap, 54, will replace Paul Silas, whose contract was not renewed after Charlotte finished with the worst winning percentage in NBA history this past season. The Bobcats were 7-59.

A former assistant coach with the Denver Nuggets, Dunlap assumed all duties with the St. John's program after head coach Steve Lavin took a leave of absence to deal with prostate cancer.

"The Johnnies basketball family is ecstatic for Coach Dunlap's opportunity," Lavin said in a statement. "Mike's selection as the Charlotte Bobcats' head coach is a well-deserved honor. To make the unprecedented jump from college assistant to NBA head coach is testament to both Mike's abilities as a teacher and our basketball program's marked improvement over the past 27 months."

Dunlap has spent most of his career at the college level and has worked under Lute Olson in Arizona.

He joined St. John's after serving as the associate head coach on Pac-10 staffs at Arizona and Oregon.

Arizona went 21-14 in 2008-09, advancing to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 before ending the season with a loss to top-seeded Louisville in the NCAA Midwest Regional Semifinal game. Dunlap joined Oregon's staff in 2009-10 and the Ducks posted a 16-16 record.

Prior to working at Arizona and Oregon, Dunlap spent two seasons in the NBA with the Nuggets working under head coach George Karl.

The Nuggets compiled a 95-69 (.579) record during his tenure and made two playoff appearances, including a 50-win season for the 2007-08 Denver squad, a first for the organization in 23 seasons.

Early in his career, Dunlap also served as an assistant coach at Southern California under George Raveling, and as an assistant coach at Iowa. He also spent five years as an assistant at his alma mater, Loyola Marymount University.

In between he spent 10 years at Metropolitan State College of Denver.

Thunder to bounce back after Game 3 mistakes

MIAMI (AP) A questionable substitution by the coach, more foul trouble for the superstar, and bad free throw shooting by just about everybody ruined Oklahoma City's chances in Game 3 of the NBA Finals.

All that didn't wreck the Thunder's hopes of winning the series.

The Thunder trail the Miami Heat 2-1 after a 91-85 loss on Sunday in which they blew a 10-point lead in the third quarter. Kevin Durant went to the bench in foul trouble and Scott Brooks compounded the problem by yanking Russell Westbrook shortly after, both All-Stars watching when the game got away from the Thunder.

Oklahoma City was in worse trouble in the last round, dropping the first two games against the San Antonio Spurs. So they know they can climb out of the hole they're in this time.

''This is another great opportunity to show what becoming a champion is all about. You know, it's not something that ever has come easy,'' said guard Derek Fisher, who has won five of them.

''Every team that has won a championship has earned the right to be champions. And so we're faced with another opportunity again tomorrow night to come together as a team and be confident in who we are and figure out a way to come out here and win a game. You know, things turn a great deal in these series with one game, and we have the opportunity to turn it tomorrow.''

Game 3 turned quickly, mostly because of the Thunder's own mistakes.

Durant picked up his fourth foul with 5:41 left and the Thunder leading by six. Westbrook was taken out 40 seconds later for Fisher, who converted a four-point play before it all fell apart for Oklahoma City.

The Thunder twice fouled shooters behind the arc, made only 6 of 11 free throws in the quarter, and when the game was getting away from his team, Brooks kept Westbrook parked on the bench for the remainder of the period.

Westbrook appeared angry when taken out, slamming his hand against a chair. He said he was upset with himself, and Brooks said there was no issue between them Monday.

''That's over with. We're moving on to Game 4,'' Brooks said.

''When Kevin got the fourth foul, that kind of changes the dynamic of that game because Kevin, I think he had 23 points at that time, things were going very well. So there was a lot of times that we had other things that we had to figure out. But I thought that stretch where we fouled the two 3-point shooters really was a big part of their comeback, and then we missed five free throws in that stretch, and as you know, we're the best free throw shooting team in the league.''

Hard to tell in this series, though. The Thunder, who shot 80.6 percent during the regular season, were only 15 of 24 (62.5 percent) on Sunday and 54 of 77 (70 percent) during the series. With a young core age 23 and under, the Thunder acknowledged some jitters before Game 1, but Durant said that isn't the problem now.

REPEAT

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Ito put on a good showing in the second game, which was a seesaw battle. Ito, who gained points off good shuttlecock placement near the net, then managed to take a 17-15 lead before Choi made a rally. The Korean player was all over the court in the latter part of the second game and completed the sweep with a drop shot.

Choi got a free pass to the finals after a victory via forfeiture against Malou Malasarte in the semifinals. Ito booked the second finals ticket, following a 21-15, 21-13 triumph over Lani Bartolome in the other semis pairing. Malasarte went on to win third place after slipping past Bartolome in the consolation game, 21-15, 18-21, 21-16.

Other women's singles champions in the IT&E competition were Roma Barlao and Toshiko Obata.

Barlao took the women's C singles crown against Midori Obi. The opening game of the finale was played in extended minutes with Barlao prevailing, 25-23, but failed to end the game early when Obi recovered in the second game, 21-18. Then in the deciding third game, Barlao regained her bearings for a 21-16 triumph.

Claiming the women's C singles title was a big victory for Barlao, as she lost in the semifinals to eventual champion Kim Boranah last year. This season, Barlao won her semis match over Jane Tupas, 21-16, 13-21, 22-20 to advance against Obi, who eliminated Irish Pagarao, 21-9, 21-6. Pagarao saved third place after Tupas withdrew from the third place match due to injury.

In the women's C singles finale, Obata swept Boranah, 21-12, 21-15. Obata moved into the finals after booting out Loyda Ito,21-18, 21-15, while Boranah took the long way to the championship round after surviving Cris Obaldo in three sets, 21-18, 15-21, 21-17. In the battle for third place, Ito won easily after a no-show from Obaldo.

Meanwhile, winners in the men's singles and mixed doubles A will be published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Thursday edition.

TWO

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record and Docomo climbing up from seventh to sixth place in Pool A.

Docomo led by as much 15 in the closing minutes of the third, but rushed its shots in the fourth quarter, allowing AD 31 to cut the deficit to single digit, 50-57, with 1:20 left on the clock.

It was a long 1:20, as teams traded fouls and errors in the ensuing plays. AD 31 went on to fall short on its comeback bid after going 1-for-8 from the foul line, while Docomo saved the win, following a 3-for-10 shooting from the stripe.

Joseph Achas paced Docomo with his 14 points, making two triples late in the third to lead the team's 15-2 windup in the last three minutes of that quarter. Docomo was ahead by only five, 40-35 when AD 31 went cold, while Achas and Resty Joson combined for 12 points in the rally for a 50-37 advantage at the end of the third period.

However, Docomo slowly lost the double-digit advantage as it took hurried shots. Fortunately for Docomo, AD 31 was also too fast for its own good and muffed crucial charities with Sacramento turning the ball over on several occasions and Dexter Tenorio going 1-for-8 at the foul line in the closing minute and Buboy Sablan missing a pair.

Lester Vertudez led AD 31 with his 19 markers, drilling nine of them in the fourth to lead the team's foiled comeback attempt.

In the first game, KFC capitalized on a depleted Fastbreakers crew to end the latter's winning run.

The Fastbreakers missed Niko Salem and Kevin De Leon, while Jack Aranda came in only in the closing minutes of the third period with KFC in full control of the match.

With the Fastbreakers' key players absent, KFC took a 28-14 lead at the end of the first period. Jeff Durant muscled his way in the paint early, scoring 10 of his 20 points in the opening canto.

KFC slowed down in the second, but kept the big lead at the break, 40-21, as the Fastbreakers continued to bleed for points, making only two field goals. Aranda reported to the game late in the third and scored four points, but JR Deleon Guerrero was there to retain KFC's twin-digit lead, 58-40, firing 9 of his 12 in that canto.

KFC hung in there in the fourth period, as no Fastbreakers players stepped up for Salem and De Leon and Aranda added only four more points.

First Game

KFC 78 – Durant 20, Francisco 13, Deleon Guerrero 12, Omnes 11, Salas 9, Maranan 8, Lee 7, Daria 3.

Fastbreakers 53 – Cadiang 15, Palacios 8, Aranda 8, Saturno 5, Isip 5, Manangan 4, Olfindo 2, Taylor 2, Pelegrino 2, Cascavel 2.

Scoring by quarters: 28-14, 40-29, 58-40, 78-53.

Second Game

Docomo 60 – Achas 14, Joson 12, Usi 11, Gomez 10, Tengco 5, Cultura 4, Enriquez 2, Lazardo 2.

AD 31 53 – Vertudez 19, Sacramento 18, Tenorio 7, Anasan 5, Sablan 2, Floreindo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-14, 31-22, 50-37, 60-53.

SAKUDI

From Page 28

tibu and Man Amigos ahead of the pack.

Natibu notched a pair of wins and remain in first place with its 12-1 record. It hung on to defeat SaiPal (6-6), 23-19, last Wednesday, before downing Manelos (7-4), 21-11, last Monday.

Man Amigos (9-1) sit three games behind Natibu after outlasting Familia (4-7), 36-26, in a barn burner last Wednesday. Gagu Eyez (7-2) is next in the team standings, followed by Your Balls (6-3), Berdax (6-4), Warriors (5-6), Team Elias (4-5), X-clusive (4-6), G-Ballers (3-6), 6-Pack (2-6), Talu Fahn (2-10), and Managaha (0-10).

The season continues tonight with Berdax facing Talu Fahn at 6:30pm, Enamo Meta battling Check It Out at 7:30pm, and Man Amigos taking on Team Elias at 8:30pm.

MONDAY
Sakudi 20, Check It Out 6

It was a really good game until Check It Out fell apart on the field in the sixth inning.

Leading up to the critical breakdow, Check It Out held a 3-0 lead after the first three innings. It scored two runs in the first from Keolani Rios and Claire Sablan and added the third in the third inning from an RBI single by Nami Tadokoro.

Sakudi finally hit the board with two runs in the fourth inning from a couple of RBI ropes by Bert Camacho and Thelma Mizer.

The count then shifted to 6-5, in favor of Check It Out, but Sakudi unleashed a 15-run tear in the sixth inning to run away with the victory.

Check It Out closed a quick two outs to start the inning, but Sakudi finally awoke at the plate and bashed nine hits that were sprinkled in with some untimely errors and a couple of fielder's choices.

Natibu 21, Manelos 11

Natibu cranked out nine runs in the opening frame with the help of some early errors followed by five hits. Jerry Guerrero lifted a sacrifice fly and Jesse Tagabuel bashed a two-RBI base rip, while Victor Salas, Ton Benavente, and Dustin Quitano bagged RBI singles.

Manelos countered with three runs in the bottom frame, but Natibu got one back in the second inning from a stolen dish by Ned Norita.

Natibu then added four more runs in the third inning off a solo home run by Bruce Norita, an error, and a pair of RBI singles by Quitano and Aaron Benavente.

Manelos managed another three runs in the bottom frame, but Natibu capped a 16-7 lead after the fourth frame with a two-run shot by Navan Falig. Manelos Ben Cabrera drove in Pat Alepuyo in the bottom half of the inning.

Manelos held Natibu in the fifth inning and mustered four runs in the bottom side, but the latter came out strong in the sixth inning with a handful of runs before securing the early decision.

Ned Norita left the yard for three runs, while Bruce Norita belted a two-RBI single followed by a RBI base knock by BJ Sablan. Ned Norita batted 2-for-3 with three RBIs and three runs.

WEDNESDAY
Man Amigos 36, Familia 26

Familia briefly clung to an 11-7 lead in the first inning, but Man Amigos marched ahead, 21-11, in the next frame. Man Amigos tallied 15 runs off 13 hits including a pair of two-run shots by Justin Reyes and Manny Sablan and a three-run jolt by JJ Laniyo.

Familia tried to claw back into the game, but Man Amigos seemed to always have an answer for whatever was thrown their way.

Man Amigos led, 25-18, after five innings and Familia managed eight runs in the top of the sixth from seven hits, including a grand slam by Pat Guerrero and a two-run slice from Preston Basa. Man Amigos fired back with 11 runs off eight hits in the bottom frame for the knockout blow; four runs came off errors, while Joey Dela Cruz and Laniyo both bashed two-run homers.

Reyes swung 5-for-6 with seven RBIs and two other runs, while Laniyo batted 4-for-5 with four RBIs and three runs.

Check It Out 14, Rookies 3

Check It Out took a quick 8-2 lead in the first inning off nine hits. Shirley Ada, Connie San Nicolas, and Keolani Rios bagged RBI singles, while Keina Rogopes delivered a two-RBI base poke.

Check It Out later added two more runs in the fourth off errors, while the Rookies responded with a run in the fifth off an extra throw, before the former moved around the three runs needed for the mercy victory in the sixth frame.

Three leadoff hits set the stage for a two-RBI single by Hermina Kelley, while Rios delivered the final blow for the walk off.

Jennelle Brel, Jovie Omar, Rios and Rogopes all swung 3-for-4.

Natibu 23, SaiPal 19

SaiPal flexed its muscle early with nine runs in the first inning off eight hits; Jordan Hayes jacked a three-run homer and Lefty Shiro busted a two-RBI double.

Natibu's Navan Falig answered with a two-run shot to start the second inning, but SaiPal got one back in the bottom frame off an error.

SaiPal then trudged ahead, 16-7, in the third inning.

Natibu worked around a handful of runs in the top half primarily from a two-RBI double by JR Suel and RBI single by Ned Norita, but SaiPal obliged with six runs in the bottom frame off six hits. Shiro delivered a two-RBI double and Eli Ilo hammered a two-run homer.

SaiPal was still ahead, 18-11, after five frames as following a solo blast from Victor Salas in the fourth and a three-run budge from his teammates in the fifth SaiPal's Hector Effrain answered with a two-run bomb in the bottom of the inning. Natibu's Jon Welson and Jerome Delos Santos provided a sac-fly and a two-run homer in the top of the fifth.

Natibu then pulled within five runs, 14-19, in the sixth frame thanks to a three-run shot by BJ Sablan and the reigning champion caught fire in the clutch with nine runs for a nice comeback.

Shiro hit 4-for-5 and scored three RBIs and two runs, Clifton Sillil batted 3-for-4 with three RBIs and two runs and was a home run shy of the cycle, and Ilo went 3-for-5 with two RBIs and three runs.

PROA

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and wilted in the late minutes.

In the first U25 game, Shottas fell behind early, 17-23, as Rollers A's Paul Camacho and Jester Kaipat lit up the board with seven points apiece.

The Shottas regrouped at intermission and buckled down on defense to pull off the come-from-behind win.

Rollers A was held to just 11 points in the second half, while a handful of Shottas put a hand on the recovery.

Eugene Manglona carried the torch for Shottas and led the second-half rally with seven points. He finished with 14, while Camacho mustered 11 on the short end.

In the second game, Peace Makers jumped out to a 16-7 lead at halftime, thanks largely to a pair of early threes of Jason Lizama.

Hi-5's Eric Atalig scrambled for six markers in the second half, but did not receive enough support, while different Peace Makers players hit the board at crunch time for the double-digit winning margin.

Juan Camacho led Peace Makers' charge in the second half with seven points. He and Lizama combined for 21 in the runaway, while Atalig managed eight in defeat.

Matches in the youth caging will continue this week with U25's R-Rebels taking on Hi-5 this Friday at 5:30pm and the Saints colliding with GVH at 6:30pm. Then on Monday, U17's Rollers 16B meets the Cougars at 5:30pm, while and IT&E Rollers B squares off against Rollers Basketball Club's Agape crew at 6:30pm.

U17
First Game

Proa 33 – Mizer 10, Palacios 5, Aguilar 5, Mendoza 4, Capuyon 3, W. Camacho 2, Deleon Guerrero 2.

IT&E Rollers A 30 – Factor 12, Malonzo 8, Dai 7, Kwon 2, Ano 1.

Scoring by halves: 16-16, 33-30

Second Game

Loving Hands 50 – Salem 8, Alegre 7, Ito 7, Aranda 6, Lansang 6, Feria 6, Escalada 3, Ramos 3, De Guzman 2, Javier 2.

Safety 1st 35 – Darag 12, Dela Rosa 10, Mancao 4, B Manibusan 4, Eswota 3, T. Caro 2.

Scoring by halves: 25-18, 50-35.

U25
First Game

Shottas 39 – Manglona 14, Olomai 7, Z Babauta 7, Santos 5, R. Babauta 3, E. Caro 2.

Rollers A 34 – P. Camacho 11, Kaipat 9, Kapwich 4, Mizer 4, Laniyo 4, Teregeyo 2.

Scoring by halves: 17-23, 39-34.

Second Game

Peace Makers 37 – J. Camacho 11, J. Lizama 10, Nuique 4, Jung 4, La. Reyes 4, R. Camacho 2, Lu. Reyes 2.

Hi-5 20 – Atalig 8, Hockett 4, Aldan 3, Manibusan 2, F Machahito 2, G. Machahito 1.

Scoring by halves: 16-7, 37-20.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	41	25	.621	—
Baltimore	39	28	.582	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	37	29	.561	4
Toronto	34	33	.507	7 1/2
Boston	33	33	.500	8

Central Division

Chicago	35	32	.522	—
Cleveland	34	32	.515	1/2
Detroit	32	34	.485	2 1/2
Kansas City	29	36	.446	5
Minnesota	26	39	.400	8

West Division

Texas	41	27	.603	—
Los Angeles	36	32	.529	5
Oakland	31	36	.463	9 1/2
Seattle	29	40	.420	12 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	38	26	.594	—
New York	36	32	.529	4
Atlanta	35	32	.522	4 1/2
Miami	33	33	.500	6
Philadelphia	31	37	.456	9

Central Division

Cincinnati	38	28	.576	—
Pittsburgh	34	31	.523	3 1/2
St. Louis	34	33	.507	4 1/2
Milwaukee	31	36	.463	7 1/2
Houston	28	39	.418	10 1/2
Chicago	23	44	.343	15 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	42	25	.627	—
San Francisco	38	30	.559	4 1/2
Arizona	33	34	.493	9
Colorado	25	40	.385	16
San Diego	24	44	.353	18 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

DLX STANDINGS

Bracket A

Team Pogi	4	1
DLX/Irish Spring	3	1
Mawati	2	1
Marianas Water	2	2
8-Division	1	2
Docomo	2	3
AD-31	2	4
LD Prime	1	3

Bracket B

Fastbreakers	5	1
KFC/Taco Bell	5	1
Banahaw	3	2
San Roque	2	2
R-Lyn's	1	2
Sinigang	1	3
Gualo Rai	1	3
Wushin Express	0	5

19th Annual Tom Picarro 'Silver Streak' Memorial Fun Run

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Four runners make their way to the finish line.

Butch Sublemente is a few steps away from the finish line.

Ronald Villafria is cheered on by a DFS employee near the finish line.

Mieko Carey smiles as she nears the finish line of the 19th Annual Tom Picarro "Silver Streak" Memorial Fun Run last Saturday.

Gary Bandoja, left, and Yoshi Suzuki sprint to the finish line.

Three runners are heading to the finish line.

Michael Mancao slows down on his way to the finish line.

SaipanDa is escorted by a DFS employee as the former crosses the street to greet finishers.

Members and officials of Saipan Swim Club pose for a photo after joining the weekend race.

From left, Suzy Kindel, Janet King, and Joshua Berger pose for a group photo after completing the 4.2-mile race.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Repeat winner in IT&E badminton tourney

Two in row for Docomo; KFC shares lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Docomo and KFC notched their second straight win after downing separate foes in the 2012 DLX/DL JOS Inter-Color Basketball League Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

KFC played in the curtain raiser and hand the Fastbreakers their first loss, 78-53, while Docomo endured AD 31 in the night cap, 60-53. Both winners moved up to the team standings with KFC gaining a share of the lead with the Fastbreakers in Pool B after posting a 5-1

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Docomo's Olan Tengco dribbles past AD 31's Dexter Tenorio during the fourth quarter of their game in the DLX/DL JOS caging last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Sakudi crushes Check It Out, 20-6

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Defending champion Sakudi routed women's division frontrunner Check It Out, 20-6, during their game last Monday in the Chamolinian Softball Association's Budweiser Softball League at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Sakudi's win locked them up in a tie for first place with Check It Out, as the co-leaders hold identical 7-2 records.

Check It Out's stumble came after an easy 14-3 victory over the Rookies (1-6) last Wednesday. 670 Babes (3-3) and Enamo Meta (2-7) complete the field.

In the men's division, Na-

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Sakudi's Lilian Aguon takes a cut during their game against Check It Out in the Chamolinian league last Monday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

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REPORTER

Fifty-six year-old Hannai Choi won her rematch against 21-year-old Angie Ito, prevailing in two sets in their women's singles A title duel in the IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2012 last Saturday at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Choi capitalized on Ito's sluggish start to draw first blood, 21-7, and then came from two points down in the second set, 21-19, for the sweep and a successful title defense in the centerpiece singles event for female players. Choi also defeated Ito in straight sets in last year's finale, 21-12, 22-20, and last weekend's victory was the former's third in a row against the latter after winning the women's B singles championship, 21-12, 21-14, in the 2010 edition of the IT&E tournament.

The finalists were given only a few minutes before starting their title match and Ito still showed some rust and trailed early at the break, 11-4. Ito continued to struggle in the last part of the first game and Choi wrapped up the opener after the former's strong return went out of the right sideline.

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Hannah Choi returns to Angie Ito during their women's singles A title game in the IT&E badminton tournament last Saturday at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Proa clips Rollers A in Docomo youth caging

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Proa outlasted IT&E's Rollers A, 33-30, during the first U17 game in the 2012 Docomo Pacific Summer Youth Basketball League last Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Proa and IT&E Rollers A were knotted up at midpoint, 16-all, and it was evident that this match was going to come down to the last possession.

Chris Mizer went on to lift Proa to the close win with his seven points in the final half, while Irvyn Malonzo, Prince Factor, and Lixing Dai provided a handful for IT&E Rollers A, but still dropped the game.

Factor scored six points in the tight second half, but Proa's well balanced attack triumphed in the end. Six different Proa players helped grind out the win.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Proa's Chris Mizer, seen here facing defenders from Rollers Basketball Club/Agape, scored 10 points in their 33-30 win against IT&E's Rollers A in the U17 division of the Docomo youth caging last Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

In other results, Loving Hands Daycare toppled Safety 1st in the second U17 game, 50-35, while Shottas overcame Rollers A, 39-35, and the Peace Makers routed Hi-5, 37-20, in the U25 matches played last Saturday.

Loving Hands built a 25-18 halftime lead. It hit two shots from downtown and drew a couple of buckets from Bryl Alegre, Emerson Feria, and Nevin Salem to take the upperhand.

Renen Lansang then came off the bench in the second half for Loving Hands and delivered seven markers, as his team ran away with it in the end.

Safety 1st was simply unable to make a stand on the defensive end

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